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VOLUME 85

FEBRUARY, 1927

NUMBER 2

Entered as Second Class Matter at Post Office at Superior, Nebraska, U. S. A.



Pestles in Collection of Dr. Bunch, Muncie, Ind. J. H. Houston and F. B. Gooch, Washington, D. C. See their ads. P. Hansen, Des Moines, Iowa. Look up his ad. Edward E. Harris, Perrysville, Ind., as he appeared in the county centennial at Covington, Ind., in August 1926, armor formerly owned by Richard Mansfield. See his ad.

MAINLY CURIOS

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8 in. Allen, 6-shot pepper box, working order, fine	4.50
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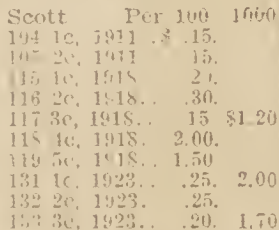
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Second-hand International Stamp Albums, 19th century, 1894, 1897, 1899, fair condition, \$1.25 each, 1899, fair to good, \$2 each, 1899, good to fine, \$3 each.

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Latvia, No. 64-67	10c
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Stamps Free. Grand set of 10 new issue pictorial; Mozambique Co. Mention Gift West and send 4c postage.—Bright & Son, 164 Strand, London, England.

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We are prepared to pay a fair, just price, for stamp collections of all kinds. Send us what you have by Parcel post insured; a fair price and spot cash.

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When replying to ads please mention West

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The BRITISH COLONIAL EMPIRE

(No British Stamps included.)

500 standard varieties, in fine condition, including such stamps as Cape of Good Hope, triangular, 4d blue; New Zealand, 1st type; New Brunswick, 1860; India, 1st type, and other old Colonial issues. We are also presenting a fine copy of British 1d black of 1840 (the first and finest stamp ever issued) to every purchaser of this collection.

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Collection of 2000

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all different**

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CORNISH NOVELTY CO.

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Your Ad Free. Special in order to test
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I want to sell U. S. Cents, 3c Silver,
Half Dimes, 1/4 Dols., a few rare stamps
of 1847-1869. A parchment, second pres-
ident, John Adams. World war cen-
sored Covers, scarce Revenues, etc.

W. B. GOULD

Antiques, Stamps, Coins

292 Hammond St. Bangor, Maine

Wanted. Rare Coins. 1891 dime "S"
mint, \$100. 1913 Liberty head nickle, \$40.
These are only a few of rare coins we will
pay good prices for. Will buy old arrow
heads, old newspapers, etc. Write or see
David E. Koon, McCook, Neb., general del-
ivery.

I Am Collecting Platform Tickets, Gov-
ernment Post Cards, Air Postmarks and
Cigarette Pictures, Cigar Bands. If you
send me them, I will send you what you
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1 stone mt, half dollar, 1 stone Aztec idol,
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cone shaped pestle, 25 asst. English trade
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nice specimens with data.

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specimens of pearl bearing fresh
water mussels. Each shell con-
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Postpaid for \$1.25 Each.

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Colored Post Card View of Kankakee
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Real Pearls and Pearl Jewelry our Specialty. We buy direct from the pearl fisherman, therefore, our prices are about one-third that of jewelers. Here are some of our bargains:

- Choice large Baroque Pearl Stick Pin15.00
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Everything genuine, postpaid and satisfaction guaranteed.

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16 Harding St. Worcester, Mass.

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Old and new, 25c. One pound mostly U. S. 50c postpaid.

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For Coins of all countries and periods, and Medals, Tokens and Notes, write

B. A. SEABY, LTD.

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Souvenir Cards of Movie Stars, Beautiful Homes, or other views, for street car transportation tokens.

H. E. UPLEGER.

720 West 51 St. Los Angeles, Calif

Exchange: 21 jewel South Bend watch, single 44 and 45 Colts. 44 D. A., breakdown S. W. 4 shot, Sharp pepper box, ivory handles; 22 S. W., single 7 shot under break. Want 32 and 38 single S. W. breakdown pistols. 410 double shot gun.—G. E. Dickey, Culberson, N. C.

LIFE SUB

Through the suggestion of a kind reader in Texas we are offering Life Subscriptions to West for \$5

To make it clear—send \$5 and you will get West for the balance of your life.

We sell land and sea curios from Miami, Florida. Write for agents' prices.

OUR SPECIAL OFFERS

Natural sea shell showing the Man in the Moon in profile, in Miami, Florida. 10 cents each.

Lucky Sea Beans, gray or brown. Rub your nose for luck, 10 cents each.

Sea Biscuits, very pretty, 25c each.

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A beautiful colored Post Card of Miami, Florida, free with each of the above offers.

Agents wanted all over the United States.

Cocoanuts, plain and hand-painted for \$1 to \$5 each.

100 different colored Post Cards of Miami, Florida. 1 cent each if you order ten or more at a time. We pay the postage.

6 different booklets of Miami, Florida. 18 or more different views in each book. 10 cents each. We pay the postage.

If you are pleased tell others, if not, tell us.

If you ask questions enclose two cents extra for reply.

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Fulford, Fla., Gen. Del., for quick returns.

Advertise what you want and where to get it in the West. Tell it, sell it.

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ESTABLISHED 1895

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VOLUME 85

FEBRUARY, 1927

NUMBER 2

BETWEEN OURSELVES.

West has passed another birthday. For you may not know West is world's greatest collector's paper for twenty or more years. Averaged 100 pages. It has published most Want X Ads of any other collector's paper. The measure of paper's popularity is found in the number of Want X Ads it publishes. WEST reaches the collectors you want to get in touch with at least cost.

George Patac, N. Y. has used West past year and says must say I sure got results from the West.

Dr. Davis, Caldwell, N. J., says he passed his eightieth birthday retired from active business. Much interested in stamp collecting since he was thirty years old when he commenced and took West twenty-five years ago. Says West is unique as hobbyist paper and grown good and that is first rate indication of hard work and sticktoitiveness on part of L. T. B.

G. Crozier, McGraw, N. Y., says his ads in West most successful of any paper he ever used.

J. Madison, California, has ads and says he enjoys West very much and wishes it continued success.

A. Kigas, Mass., says returns from his ads in West been very satisfactory and more answers still coming in and find it pays.

A. Michaels, N. Y., writes thinks West sure a dandy and hopes to have ads in every issue.

Steve, Mich., reports he received good results from his ads.

We expect to use article of fine collection of Fenstermaker of Penn. in next number. Also illustrate more collections and collectors.

Rev. Butler, Newfoundland, sure got out good price list. Pay to send and get one.

Glad to see both Lincoln and Hastings, Neb., Y. M. C. A.s had hobby shows for New Year's day. Start out this year good.

Ever try Want X Ads. Cost less, produce best most ads say, why not you.

NO BARGAINS IN STAMPS—By Philatelist.

What I should like to impress on all young collectors is that there are no bargains in stamps in the sense of getting something for nothing.

In philately the apparently cheapest is dearest in the long run, and the dearest is cheapest. Stamps are primarily a hobby, but the upward tendency of prices is so steady that no collector selling out should not get a profit—or, at least, his money back.

I sold my first collection (formed between the ages of 6 and 30 solely from pocket-money and spare cash) for much more than I had spent on it. I was lucky in being taught the right way to collect. Any boy today should be able to ensure the same happy result.

But he must observe certain rules.

First, always buy the best your purse will allow, for it is the better stamps that increase proportionately most in value. Those who make most money from their collections are those who buy the rarest pieces. Few of us can afford that, but the principle holds all down the scale.

Don't think that because you are offered, say, 500 New Europe for \$1.25 you are getting a bargain. The actual stamps are perhaps worth 25 cents. The other \$1.00 is for the time and labor spent in making the packet up. But an unused Colonial stamp bought for \$1.25 will always be worth \$1.25, and double that in a few years.

You must have a basis of common stamps for your album. One large packet to start with is best. After, you can always "swap" to add further cheap stamps. But, when you have any hard cash to spend, spend it on something good.

Go in for the smaller countries rather than the larger. A sixpenny Cayman Island or St. Helena will always be scarcer than a New Zealand or Union of South Africa. The same applies to foreign countries.

Insist on perfect condition, whatever you buy. Keep your treasures clear and tidy; torn, dirty stamps are worthless.

Buy only from firms of repute. So many stamps are clever forgeries or cleverly mended, or in some way not what they profess to be, that this advice is valuable. Though dearer at first, it is really a sound investment.

Let the best at fair prices be good enough for you. There are no bargains in stamps.—London Star.

OUR ILLUSTRATIONS.

Harry R. Marlow was born in Goshen, Mahoning county, Ohio, October 1, 1878. When about two years old his parents moved to Beatrice, Neb., but returned to Ohio the following year and located at Colebrook, Ohio. In about the years 1887-8 his father, who was in the business of raising thoroughbred stock, received a catalogue from England and he handed the wrapper to him saying "here is a stamp you do not often see." It was No. 111, a ½ penny vermilion. That was the beginning of his interest in collecting stamps. He now has a very valuable collection of other things besides stamps, having a collection of over 25,000 amateur papers, post cards, old coins, etc., thousands of old books. He has a large printing business at Warren, Ohio. See ads

A philatelic club was organized at Lincoln, Neb., January 14. Lloyd M. Campbell acted as temporary secretary and Harry B. Letton as president. The meeting was preliminary to organization and a committee was named to draft a constitution and by-laws. About fourteen were present.

POSTAGE STAMPS IN 1926—1,400 NEW VARIETIES.

Last year something like 1,400 new postage stamps appeared in all parts of the world, from Abyssinia to Zanzibar, compared with about 1,850 in 1925, a substantial reduction from the figures of the immediate post-war period. The difference in the new stamps is, in many instances, discernible only to the philatelist, being a mere matter of shade, watermark, or perforation, while the actual design of the stamp remains unaffected. This is true in a large measure of the 175 or so varieties from the British Empire. Malta, New Zealand, South Africa and Zanzibar alone have introduced stamps of new design within the past twelve months. Color changes resulting from the restoration of the 2½d. rate for international postage and the gradual replacement of the former Multiple Crown C.A. paper for that with the latest script pattern watermark, as regards the stamps supplied through the Crown Agents for the colonies, are responsible for the greater proportion of the remainder.

The pictorial postage stamp series issued by the Union of South Africa on New Year's day, 1925, is remarkable chiefly for its revival of the classic triangular type of the early issues of the Cape of Good Hope in the 4d. denomination. This with the ½d. (Gnu), 1d. (Van Riebeck's Ship), and 6d. (Orange tree) are the only values yet available. Those of 2d., 3d., 1s., 2s. 6d., 5s., and 10s. are, however, announced as imminent. Originally produced by two London firms of stamp engravers, the three surface printed denominations are now being struck off at the Union Government Printing Works, Pretoria, from the original plates. The new Maltese postage stamps, the first values of which were released on April 1, are also incomplete, stamps of 1d., 2d., 2½d., 3d., and 10s. having yet to be issued in the new types. These will appear as stocks of corresponding denominations in the old "Melita" series overprinted "Postage" become exhausted. In the latest series the stamps below 1s. face bear the King's head in a medallion and are surface printed. Whereas the higher denominations are recess printed with views of Valetta, Notabile, and other places of interest in the island.

A flagrant caricature of the king in admiral's uniform, disfiguring some new 2s. and 3s. stamps of New Zealand, issued on July 12, was the subject of universal comment and it is understood that fresh plates have been prepared in London and dispatched to the dominion in consequence. The new 1d. duty showing the king as a field marshal, which appeared four months later, is a better portrait.

During the early part of the year the government of India, after an interval of seventy years, again undertook the printing of its own postage stamp supplies at the Security Press, newly set up at Nasik Junction. Certain values of the current series only have so far appeared, upon non-curling paper, with a new multiple star watermark and with or without amended inscription, "India Postage and Revenue," instead of "India Postage" alone. Australia too, has adopted a new paper for postage stamp printing, distinguished by a closely set multiple watermark in the form of a minute crown surmounting the letter A. It was first used for the 1d. and 1½d. stamps of the Commonwealth printed from new plates on November 5. Stamps of 3 cents and 20 cents respectively, engraved with an up-to-date portrait of the Sultan Khalifa bin Harub, are all that have been issued as yet in a new postage stamp series for Zanzibar.

The erratic fluctuation of the franc has been reflected in a succession of changes in both the colors and denominations of a large number of French

and French colonial postage stamps. Those of Belgium, Monaco, Luxemburg and Italy have been similarly affected, but in a lesser degree. Outstanding events of the year commemorated in the stamps of their respective countries include the celebration of the seventh centenary of St. Francis of Assisi (Italy), the war in the Jebel Druze (Syria), the plebiscite in Tacna and Arica (Peru), the deposition of the ex-shah and the accession of Riza Khan (Persia), the re-opening of the Pilgrim route to Mecca (Nejd), the flight by Spanish airmen from Madrid to Manila (Philippines) and by Captain Franco from Palos to Buenos Aires (Spain), centenary of Greek independence (Greece), the tercentenary of the liberation of Portugal (Portugal and Azores), and the 150th anniversary of the battle of White Plains in the American War of Independence (U. S. A.). In all 137 special stamps of a commemorative character were issued in 1926. One such issue marked the meeting of the second Pan-American Postal Congress at Mexico City on October 10, while another signalized the centenary of the postal service in the Argentine (July 1, 1826), and a third the seventy-fifth anniversary of the introduction of adhesive postage stamps into Denmark (March, 1851).

Postage stamps issued for charitable purposes in 1926 numbered 172, of which 90 varieties were accounted for by the special issue on behalf of the Spanish Red Cross society in September. Of particular interest in this connection was the annual Austrian series of charity postage stamps in design illustrating the saga of Nibelungs. The extensive employment of aeroplanes in transportation of the mails is exemplified by the advent of some sixty-five particular postage stamps for exclusive use in the air post service. Celebrities honored by their portrayal upon stamps during the period under review include John Ericsson, designer of the first ironclad "Monitor," Goethe, Schiller, Kant, Beethoven, Bach, Lessing, Leibniz, Durer, Chopin, Frederick the Great and Mustapha Kemal. There were three additions to the ranks of the stamp issuing countries of the world, the Soviet State of Tannou-Touva (Northern Mongolia), the Imamate of Yemen (S. W. Arabia) and the Chinese Province of Yunnan.—*London Times*.

Universal Philatelic gratification has been expressed that the Board of Adjudication which decided the awards in the Canberra stamp design for the Australian Commonwealth Government was presided over by a well known philatelist in the person of Mr. A. J. Derrick. As already announced, 354 packets of entries were received, comprising 1,055 designs, of which 267 came from Australia and the remaining 87 from overseas, including 54 from England and Scotland. The two prizes were awarded to Australian designers. Mr. Derrick was assisted by representatives of art, stamp production and the postal authorities. The die will be engraved in London, the remainder of the work of production being performed in Australia.—*Stamp Collecting*.

Following in the footsteps of several of the leading scientific and literary institutions, the Junior Philatelic Society is inaugurating this winter an annual Christmas lecture on stamps for young people. It will be given during the school holidays, and it is hoped to secure the service of some prominent philatelist each year to present the charms of stamp study to youth in a bright and instructive lecture. The lecturer this winter will be Mr. Fred J. Melville, whose subject will be: "So This is Stamp Collecting." His lecture, illustrated with lantern slides,

COMING COMMEMORATIONS.

Of course, there will be centenaries and jubilees to be commemorated somewhere. But they are not easily foreseen. The diamond jubilee of the Dominion of Canada is a possibility, especially as the Prince of Wales and the British Prime Minister are crossing the Atlantic for the celebration. The Canadian historical—or as Mr. Roessler calls it, hysterical—set may yet eventuate, and there might be an excuse for a little philatelic flutter on the bicentenary of General Wolfe's birth. Germany has just given us a portrait stamp of Beethoven, and some musical enthusiasts will probably strive to get copies specially postmarked on the centenary of his death (died March 31, 1827), and incidental to music we are to have a polonaise stamp picturing Frederic Chopin. But probably the majority of the centenaries, etc., to be commemorated in stamps this year will concern persons, places and things of little concern, and often unknown to folk outside the country of issue.—Postage Stamp.

ODDS AND OPPORTUNITIES.

It is well known that the library of the London Stamp Club is one of the finest philatelic libraries in the world, but it cannot be too often repeated that literature of all kinds is at all times welcomed for it. The librarian, who takes a fitting pride in his Bodleian assemblage, tells us that one friend regularly brings in addments which are added to the shelves or exchanged for others items. Another devoted member is a constant donor of stamps of various kinds, from which the official in charge is invited to extract all forgeries and keep them for the club collection. Most useful, most trusting, but what an opportunity!—Stamp Collecting.

Why not help your local library of collectors' society.

DO SOMETHING FOR PHILATELY OR COLLECTIONS

By joining the small coterie that try their best to give you a good, readable and helpful journal. Send in just a new issue note, a bit of gossip or contribute an article of any kind but do something to show that the chain of organized philately is made up of many strong links and will stand the pull towards a greater and brighter future. Take that to heart and do something—you will win not just the gratitude of the Editor, though he will be plenty thankful, but the fine appreciation of thousands of fellow members and still more, the real satisfaction that goes with the knowledge that you HAVE done something.—American Philatelist.

MEKEELS SAYS BETTER THAN CARDS.

We have received many holiday greetings from readers whose kindness has gladdened our season. One of the most original messages was from Mr. and Mrs. Henry A. Diamant, St. Louis, whose token consisted of a sheet of paper, bordered by Christmas bells, containing six of the beautiful Syrian stamps and six from Lebanon. The significance of the stamps in the light of their places, of origin is a happy one.

FREE SUB. FOR TWO.

If every subscriber persuades only one friend to subscribe to the WEST the size of the magazine can be increased considerably. Price 75c and \$1 00 a year. Foreign countries 25c extra. Subscribe now. Get two, get your own Free.

MODERN STAMPS ON ENTIRE.

One of the tendencies in modern collecting is a less strict adherence to the conventional removal of stamps from the covers they have franked, and this form of collecting has much to recommend it. The old battle of "used vs. unused" becomes as obsolete as it was silly, for the intelligent collector collects either for his particular purpose, and when that purpose includes demonstration of postal use, there can be no question that the best illustration is a copy "on piece" showing the entire postmark—or, if there is any point in proving incontestibly that the stamp franked the letter without being taxed, the whole cover is desirable. Collecting in this form is decidedly on the increase, incidentally proving how easy it is to collect "entires" when one really wants to do so.—Stamp Collecting.

POSTCARDS MAKE TRIP AROUND WORLD IN 55 DAYS ON \$500 WAGER.

Traveling over the same route in different directions two postcards mailed from New York the evening of October 21 have returned here after circling the globe in approximately fifty-five days.

Only fourteen hours separated the two at the finish of the postal race and by this narrow margin Theodore Steinway won a wager of \$500 from Hugh Clark. Both are New York men. The winning card carried a picture of Governor Smith and the loser a picture of President Coolidge.

Mr. Clark devotes his time exclusively to the collection and dissemination of rare stamps. Mr. Steinway collects stamps but disseminates pianos.—New York World.

A SILVER STAMP

The new Dutch Christmas stamps, sold in aid of charitable organizations, continue last year's series and show the arms of further Dutch provinces, beautifully colored and emblazoned. The 2c stamp is especially striking, as part of the design is printed in silver.

Portugal has just issued two special stamps which are supplied to Red Cross organizations without charge for the franking of their correspondence. The design shows a nurse attending hospital patients by the light of a torch. One of the stamps is for the use of the Lisbon headquarters of the Red Cross and the other for branches throughout the country.

ST. LOUIS STAMP COLLECTOR'S SOCIETY.

The St. Louis Stamp Collector's Society, Mr. Richard Hellman, president, meets at the Marquette Hotel, 18th and Washington Sts., St. Louis, at 8 o'clock the first and third Tuesday of each month. Auction sales by members feature the meetings, and talks and informal discussions make them enjoyable and educational. All philatelists, beginner and specialist alike, who live in or around St. Louis or are visiting there, are invited and urged to attend or to correspond with the secretary-treasurer, Mr. Henry Lacks, 1915 South Jefferson Ave., St. Louis.

45,378 "STANDARD" STAMPS.

The total number of stamps issued to date as included in this catalogue is 45,378, writes English company of their catalogue of postage stamps. Europe has issued 13,552, Asia 8,559, Africa 10,394, America 7,522, West Indies 2,917, and Oceania 2,434. A comparison with the figures in their last edition will show that 2,000 new stamps have been issued during the last twelve months.

THE PHILATELIC WEST

POSTAGE STAMP FOUND BY CHANCE SOLD FOR \$10,000.

Baltimore.—A rare old stamp issued by the Alexandria, Va., postoffice in 1846 and valued at \$10,000 has just been acquired by Baltimore.

It had a value of 5 cents at its issue, and was found recently by Mrs. Edward S. Leadbeater of Alexandria, and narrowly escaped being burned up with some old papers. She preserved it at the instance of friends and later sold it for \$8,000.

The stamp is the third of its kind known to be in existence. It is circular in form, slightly larger than a quarter dollar, and is printed, not engraved. Around the edge appear the words "Alexandria Postoffice," and in the center is an embossed hexagon containing a six-pointed star.

NORWAY FORGED COVERS?

The above bulletin warns its readers against forgeries of the 1920 Christiansund—Christiania cachet. Can our contemporaries give us details of the differences?

Some of these covers came on the market some months ago from Sweden and, as previously only two or three covers were known, it was suggested that possibly these additional covers were forgeries. But are they forgeries? A well known Scandinavian air expert pronounced them "absolutely genuine."

Some definite information upon this subject would be welcomed for these notes." Can any reader oblige?—Stamp Collecting.

QUEEN MARIE OF ROUMANIAN STAMPS.

Queen Marie of Roumania, who visited the United States, is depicted on four postage stamps of her country. Three stamps of the 1906 issue bear her portrait, one in court robes, another spinning and another weaving. They are beautifully engraved. The queen is also shown in a Red Cross nurse uniform on a Roumanian stamp of 1920.

There was an unusual demand for these stamps at the exhibition on the day of the queen's arrival. All four stamps are common and can be bought for a few cents each.

NEW SHAH STAMP.

The first postage stamp bearing the new Shah's portrait has recently been issued in Persia.

The design was copied from that of the Mohamed Ali Shah issue and represents the first serious attempt of the Persians to produce their own stamps, the whole of the work being done in Teheran. So far the six-shahi stamp only has appeared—the modern shahi is a copper coin of Persia worth about 5¢—but it is believed that other values are to follow.

WASTE, WASTE.

If there is one thing that makes us sad it is this—immediately after an exhibition every stamp paper feels compelled to run a big list of fine type giving the awards—absolutely the dullest reading. Even those who have won prizes don't read the lists and the disappointed ones certainly don't get any kick out of it. How much better the space could be used in telling something about stamps.—Roessler.

Don't be slovenly, untidy, dowdy, negligent or unsanitary—keep your stamps neat in an up to date album. See "WEST" advertisements.—Sparks

THE PHILATELIC WEST

A DECIDED NOVELTY IN UNITED STATES STAMPS.—By H. D. Allen

This is a commemoration stamp issued at Fort Plain, N. Y., during the International Philatelic Exhibition at New York City, last October. Some of these were made up as a souvenir of the event, in sheets of 25.

I believe this is the only stamp ever issued by the United States in sheets of 25. I also understand that later on this same stamp will be issued from Fort Plain, in sheets of 100, but the sheets of 25 will become valuable.

What do you think of these French commemoratives? Pasteur was all right, Ronsard was fair, and the Olympics, although nothing to brag about were also fair. The Exposition of Decorative and Modern Arts type A29 was a spurt toward better things, but A30 was beyond description. Crude and lurid in the extreme would describe this stamp.

Austrian gold currency is very crude but the postage dues are bizarre and novel. The new Cameroons appear to be holding their own but there seems to be far too many for such a small place. Gibbons lists the North American at used prices only. The two cent value is priced at two cents, and the five cent value at eight cents. Stampet.

A very sensible story appeared in Stamp Collecting about various stamp exhibits. These appeal constantly to the editors for free space. Large amount of money is contributed by collectors and this money is undoubtedly wisely spent, but as far as giving any to stamp papers in the shape of advertising there seems to be very little doing. Nowhere else would advertising be seen by people most interested than in stamp papers. One reason that the journals get so little support is that most editors are anxious to give free space.—Roessler.

BUYS RARE LETTERS

San Marino, Calif.—Leslie E. Bliss, librarian for Henry E. Huntington Southern California capitalist, who is said to own the largest private library in the world, announced today that Mr. Huntington had purchased a collection of letters of Mary, Queen of Scots, and her son, James I, of England.

Reports of the sale to "an American in California" came from London early today.

GOOD STUFF.

Max Hirshman, a Nassau street dealer, got a lot of publicity for a five year old son in the New York papers. One gave eight columns of cuts and spoke of this prodigy, getting his mental calisthenics by pouring over his stamp collection. We heartily agree that stamp collecting can be made easy stepping stones to knowledge.—Roessler.

BRIGHT & SON'S NEW PRICE LIST

Is before us and is full of good things in the way of packets from 500 to 2,000, all different. It also includes an alphabetical list of British Colonials with multiple and script watermarks, and special offers of long sets, and special bargains in varieties of Hedjaz and Australian Commonwealth. Send for one.

Heart beats have been heard by radio for a distance of 1200 miles. Stamp beats must have caused the loud throbbing of the heart.—Sparks.

NEW AIR STAMPS.

The bulletin of the Aero Philatelic Club of London states that new air issues "are said to be imminent in Belgium, Finland, Norway, Hungary, Chile, Brazil, Spain and United States.—Stamp Collecting.

PASS IT ON.

If you have read this West and do not wish to keep it for future reference pass it on to one of your collector friends. He may find something to read and advertised herein that he wants. Get two subscriptions, get your own Free

There is a great need of sportsmanship among stamp collectors. The Old Habit of keeping the other fellows stamps thirty days while on "approval" is a great detriment to the stamp collecting fraternity. No good coin collector would ever think of keeping the other fellow's coins while on approval more than 48 hours. Stamp collectors should follow their example and then in a short time philately will be on a Business Basis instead of a pastime among children.

The Inauguration of the new town Port Fuad in Egypt early in the year will be the occasion for the issue of a limited number of commemorative stamps. They will be the 59 piastres, with portrait of his Majesty King Fuad, together with some values of the new Navigation Congress series; these will be overprinted "Port Fouad" for the occasion.—Postage Stamp.

1. On what stamp is depicted a telegraph operator sitting out in the open? At his table in the early morning?

2. Generally a dogged tail makes a dog more valuable so does a brown animal stamp on?

1. Ecuador telegraph 1893. 2. Chili telegraph 2c 1902 (1894).

Mr. F. Hugh Vallancey, proprietor of Stamp Collecting, London, has got home safely from his long tour of Canada and the United States and he says that more than ever before, he is proud of his "association with the splendid cause of philately."—Mekeels.

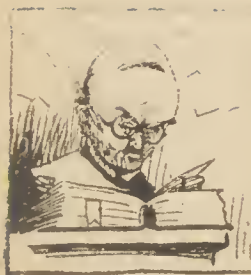
Why not make stamp collecting more attractive to the boy and junior collector. Put them in touch with reliable dealers and collectors all over the world. Recruit for the greatest hobby on earth.

Norway promises a series of stamps for use on air mail early in the New Year. The design will incorporate a view of Akershus, the fortress of Oslo.—Postage Stamp.

The 1927 season will be the best ever. Never in the history of our connection with philately have we seen such an interest as is being manifested at this season.

There are thousands of collectors who will pay a fair price, up to full catalogue and more, in order to get the stamp they want and in the condition they want it.

We predict a big double smash-up on stamps next issue, watch the advertisers' sales, then hurry as stamps will advance later.—Sparks.



INQUIRIES

It is to your benefit as well as ours as when not sent thus oftentimes your answer does not reach me in time to be answered in the next issue and is consequently held over a issue. All questions relative to coins and paper money, curios, minerals, etc. should be sent to the editors of these departments. Owing to the large number of inquiries received it is impossible to get them all into print at once. Each must take its turn. At once we ask that you enclose a stamp and we will reply direct.

In taking care of this department and trying to give intelligent replies to the many varied questions put to a poor editor, I begin to realize that the "Query Department" is one of the most difficult to handle. This is entirely a work of love, and the time I spend in trying to give intelligent answers to some of the questions put to me, sometimes makes me feel like wishing the job on a fellow, not my best friend. In a number of "West" I may give an answer to a question, but it never fails that when that number is out, somebody will come and ask the same question over again. Then again, people collect all sort of things, clocks, guns, old documents—and all kinds of old and unusual things of interest, and seem to think that I, being just a numismatist with a very limited knowledge on that subject, can tell them all about the curio which in the moment commands their interest. And it never fails that I am asked the value of these articles—just as if that was the most important about an article to find out how much it is worth in dollars and cents. Let me repeat here for the —teenth time that no curio, not even the scarcest stamp or coin, has a standard value. The price is in all instances regulated by buyer and seller. In giving replies to inquirers I often refer them to the advertising pages in "West." Here are found advertisements from all kinds of collectors. Write them, whether you want to buy or sell, compare prices and get an average. In this way you can get closer to the "standard value" of an article than by any other method I know of. M. S.

Jos. J. O'Brocta, Dunkirk, N. Y.: The old English document is worth just as much as a buyer will pay for it. I would suggest that you present it to your state library or historical society. M. S.

Mrs. C. J. Erickson, Aberdeen, Wash.: The quarter dollar 1876 with "25" on the olive branch command no premium. M. S.

Donald Zaiser, St. Joseph, Mo.: We have no such stamp albums, but it might be a good way to advertise for them in "West." Someone very likely have them for sale and can fit you out. M. S.

G. J. Hein: It seems very improbable that a coin should be issued commemorating Stephen C. Foster. M. S.

J. M. Watts, Pontotoc, Miss.: I regret to say that I am unable to furnish addresses of the collectors publications you desire. M. S.

Howard Parsons: I am sorry to say that I have no catalogue to send you, listing prices of etchings. M. S.

Mrs. Newell, Torrell, Texas: As stated before in these columns is the publisher of "West" not a dealer in coins; neither is the editor of this

partment. In looking through this magazine, you will find many advertisements from coin dealers who are selling and buying coins. I would advise that you write to some of them, asking for sale lists, and if you have any coins for sale, give description and price. By following such a procedure you will be able to get what you want. M. S.

R. Nogle, Ohio: Where can I purchase the different coin guides that are published?

Ans.: Most coin books—and the best ones—that have been published are at present out of print, so the only chance of getting them is to pick up one here and there at coin sales or from dealers. However, write St. Louis Coin Co. or West coin advertisers for coin books. M. S.

Ernest Kessler, Lakewood, N. J.: How many stamps of the Sesqui-Centennial and White Plains varieties were issued, or are going to be issued?

Ans.: I have no information to offer. M. S.

N. Erickson, Aberdeen, Wash.: The 1876 quarter you sent rubbing of seems so worn. If really so, it is of no value. Collectors do not care for badly worn coins unless so scarce that better ones can not be secured. M. S.

O. E. Ray, Deep River, Conn.: The only book not out of print, giving information on the U. S. Mint, is Smith's History of the U. S. Mint. This book was published years ago, and is not up to date now, but is the best available as far as I know. It is sold by Nelson Thorson, Omaha, Nebr. You will find his ad in "West." A modern history of the Mint is planned, but I don't think it has been published yet. M. S.

Q: What is the derivation of the name "Patagonian?" M. L. W.

Ans.: It is supposed to be derived from the Spanish "Patagon" meaning a large foot in allusion to the large footprints found by the first explorers. The Patagonians were a tribe of tall Indians considered by some authorities to be the tallest known race.

Q: When were silver dollars worth the most for silver? J. J. F.

A.: The highest value of silver in the United States was reached on February 11, 1920—consequently the United States silver dollar reached its highest value from a silver standpoint on that date, and the silver dollar was worth about 1½¢ over its face value.

Q: Who pays the government for the coins struck for the Stone Mountain fund? E. L. K.

Ans.: The government furnishes the bullion out of which the Stone Mountain memorial coins are made but the Stone Mountain memorial association will pay the government the face value of the coins before they are delivered from the mint. These coins bear the images of Jackson and Lee. They will not be coined until after the Christmas holidays.

Q:—When will the old German banknotes cease to be legal tender? T. F.

A.:—All German banknotes issued before October 11, 1924, must be redeemed by June 5, 1925, after which date they will cease to be legal tender. They are to be converted at the rate of one trillion paper marks for every reichsmark (gold mark currency).

Q:—How much is a Columbian half-dollar worth? C. G.

A.:—There is no premium on this piece of money. It is worth its face value only.

Without the slightest hesitation we award first prize to Germany for the highest priced stamps.—Sparks.

THE PHILATELIC WEST

SOME KANSAS COLLECTORS.

Miss Grace R. Meeker, librarian at Ottawa, Kas., is much interested in mosses and their collection.

E. R. Squier of Fort Scott has an interesting collection of old books pamphlets and magazines.

Dr. Lee Cowan of Atchison bought another fiddle in Kansas City Sunday. It is an Italian instrument. The doctor now admits that he owns 23 violins. Henry Ford owns \$300,000 worth of violins. The last violin made by Stradivarius in 1737 cost Rodman Wanamaker \$55,000. Wanamaker's collection of violins is worth \$250,000. George Remsburg of California, lately sent Dr. Cowan a half carload of history relating to old violins.—Atchison Globe.

Chester D. Shane of Winfield, Kas., is making a collection of books regarding the court life, etc., of the old French and English kings.

Warren Kraus, editor of the Democrat-Opinion of McPherson, Kas., has one of the most complete collections of beetles in America and is one of the world's foremost authorities on the beetle. His collection numbers more than 100,000 specimens, representing about 9,000 species of North American beetles. His library embraces more than 1,000 books on entomology.

TEXAS REPUBLIC NOTES FOUND.

New Orleans.—Fifteen notes issued by the Republic of Texas in 1837, bearing the signature of Governor Sam Houston, and having a face value of \$1,040, plus interest, have been unearthed here in a modern treasure hunt.

The value of the notes depends upon the period upon which interest would be allowed. In 1855 congress appropriated funds to pay the creditors of the republic, and it is said interest probably would be paid only upon the period between 1837, the date of their issuance and 1855. The notes bear interest at the rate of 10 per cent.

The papers were found by Albert W. Newlin, public administrator of Orleans parish, in search of safety deposit boxes for property of persons who have died without heirs.

COIN IN HONOR OF BATTLE

Fifty-Cent Piece to be Issued in January for Engagement at Bennington.

A coin designed by Charles Keck of New York to commemorate the Battle of Bennington in Vermont will be issued by the United States treasury next month. Minting of 40,000 of the coins has been authorized by Congress.

The coins are of 50-cent denomination. On the obverse they bear the profile of Ira Allen under the legend: "He Founded Vermont the 14th State." At the bottom the words "In God We Trust" appear. A monumental shaft is reproduced on the reverse, which bears the legend, "Battle of Bennington" and the words "United States of America" and "1777—half dollar—1927."—New York Times.

An old fashioned pistol, about a foot and a half long, and fired with a percussion cap, used for protection purposes by Henry Joehnck, one of Hall county's original pioneers, has been presented to Nebraska Hall county historical society by Detlef L. Joehnck, son of the colonist, to whom it was given for safe keeping. Mr. Joehnck frequently used it in the buffalo hunts. Together with it and its old and worn leather holster is a mould by which the bullets were made. It has been added to other historic relics at the public library, Grand Island.

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**HOBBY OF COLLECTING ADDS YEARS TO LIFE—BANK PRESIDENTS
SAVE STAMPS OR COINS TO FORM RECREATION.**

Collecting is something that lifts you out of the rut of everyday grind into the domain of romance and adventure. It may be only stamp-collecting, antique chasing or autograph hunting—it doesn't matter what; if you have a fad, it's like golf—it will lengthen your life.

One bank president in Boston isn't satisfied with having the greatest collection of implements, prints and books relating to whaling—New England's romantic industry—he has also one of the greatest postcard collections in the world. There hasn't been a postcard issued by any government anywhere that cannot be found in the five or six huge, bulky scrapbooks that he treasures at home. He even belongs to a little club of a dozen or more like-minded enthusiasts who about once a year have dinner and exchange ideas on their pet hobby.

Another bank president in the semi-southern city of Baltimore collects rare coins. No where in the world is there a numismatic auction but he is represented. Still another bank president collects siege coins. In the medieval ages, and even later, when a European city was encompassed by the enemy who had settled down to a siege for its possession, money would often give out, and the city would be obliged to strike off tokens of exchange in the shape of lead disks, copper coins, iron pennies, and even leather, in order to meet the demands of trade. Embodied in this man's wonderful collection in a city not far from New York is the whole romance of the Middle Ages, and much of its history. What a tale of chivalry, suffering, heroism and want this collection could tell if it had a tongue.

Another man who is a descendant of Alexander Hamilton collects everything relating to his great ancestor that he can find; and still another, who is the publisher of a great newspaper, for years has been gathering ship paintings and ship engravings, until he has several houses and many rooms overflowing with his collection. Just to keep that busy mind of his occupied still further—for he is a dynamo for work—he collects everything he can get his hands on relating to colonial times—broadslides, pamphlets, books, bills, wills, deeds, logs and everything that throws light on an historic past. His surplus is sent at regular intervals to the West—The Market For Exchange.

MEETING CHICAGO PRECANCEL CLUB.

You are invited to attend our next meeting of the Chicago Precancel Club, on Friday evening, March 11, 1927, at 7:45 p. m., Briggs House, Parlor Big "A" Wells and Randolph streets. Date of meetings second and fourth Fridays of each month.

Fred S. Raff, president, 6231 Greenwood Ave.; Lester Feagler, vice president, 9631 Forrest Ave.; Venti Molitor, secretary, 2543 Wabausia Ave.; A. Hippchen, treasurer, 118 No. LaSalle St.; B. L. Wilson, auction manager, 7655 Sheridan Road; Adolph Gunesch, publicity and exchange manager, 555 W. 103 St.; all Chicago, Ill.

Long Beach, California, has organized a stamp club that begins the year with fifty members. The officers are E. E. Morrison, president; Dr. W. H. Newman, vice president; W. J. Cuthbert, secretary; Ray Zeaman, assistant secretary; Donley Bolinger, treasurer, and L. E. Tucker, sales manager. The dues are nominal and all residents of Long Beach and vicinity are welcomed, whether beginners or veterans.—American Philatelist.

HIGH FINANCE.

It was convention time of the International Stamp Dealers' Association. It was the beautiful month of May and they were assembled in the commodious convention hall of the Hotel Beau-Rivage on the Quai de Paquis in Geneva, Switzerland. Out of the hubbub of the large crowd of international dealers detached themselves three men. The contrast between them was remarkable. Nobody would ever consider any blood relationship, but amiable the three wandered out to the balcony. A magnificent view of the Geneva Lake and in the distance the snowy Mont Blanc, but hardly a scant look was vouchsafed by the three to the enhancing vista. They came out for business. They looked around and spied a vacant table in a far corner unoccupied, and nobody close by. The nearest were three females. One of them, a motherly matron started to address one of the men, but caught his meaning glance, turned hastily to her companions. The three lifted their hats politely in passing and seated themselves, keeping the balcony well in view.

The tallest one was a Yankee, Goliad Richmond,—hailing from Boston. No mistake about it, and would be easily selected as the leader, if it were not for his, studied punctilious attitude to the rotund.

Dohna Gottleuba, hebraic caste, Swiss citizen, his birthplace only known to himself, who sported a big diamond on his finger; and the third was an Argentinian, Jarez de la Frontera, a mixture of blood, proud in bearing, besides a striking attractive man, slightly younger than the other two.

A waiter served them a cognac, and with a tip given he understood to keep strangers away.

The rotund was known on the continent as the largest stamp speculator with funds capable to transact any deal. Able to buy any government remainder of dead issues, looked expectantly at the Argentinian, who resting his head on his elbow looked scrutinizing at the two.

"As you gave me to understand," he addressed the rotund, "you want me to export to Argentina your accumulation of tons of entires, filling your warehouses to overflowing. No cash on my part expected. You know I could produce the cash, but would not consider to buy such dead balast NOW! What is on your mind?"

"You are single," answered the rotund with a hardly perceptible motion toward where the three females sat, he continued, "it could become more a family affair." The Yankee looked cynical at them. The rotund turned to him.

"Our American partner has a friend, a professor, who is absolutely a crank of government cards and envelopes, etc. This friend needs a rest, and he can instill into him the vacation idea, flatter him at the same time to issue under his name a complete up-to-date catalog. Of course for a remuneration. We reserve to quote the prices," and now facing the Argentinian, "you make him a present with a complete collection, or nearly so. Naturally it will take a large sum, possibly several million francs to impress the public that entires are the only things with a prospect of a great future value, but the financing should not worry us. The main thing get rid of our dead stock."

"Stop," interposed the Yankee. "You mean yourself. Why go to the trouble to export them to Argentina?"

"No, I said we three," answered the rotund with an offended smile. "Now, you two listen. Why this subterfuge? Too many eyes here; too many curlous or envious competitors. We must buy on the quiet anything

in that line wherever we can. Put in millions. As I said before I finance it. As the main owner of a bank I got the funds to finance the venture and clear a few millions. Not in a day—say in five to ten years. This will not hinder me to speculate in other sure things. Gentlemen, let us not waste time and energy. He stretched out his two pudgy hands. The Yankee and the other grasped them, squeezed them, and mutually considered the transaction, the money was settled, closed.

While the three men were busy shaking hands a blonde bearded young man approached a table, several ones intervening between him and the three men. Indifferently he glanced in their direction, seated himself, placed a large sized looking camera on the table, his fingers resting on the knob of the camera, turned his body resolutely, ordered a drink, and looked toward the lake where a steamboat started for its daily round to Bellevue, Copper, Amres and other little towns on the lake.

"You better go over to the ladies, Senior Frontera," the rotund amiable smiling addressed the Argentinian, "I am not afraid you flirt with Mr. Richmond's wife. I take care of your business end." He took the hint and went.

"You mentioned that somebody offered you bales of remaining stock of Wurttemberg revenues. I know all about them. My offer was that time (or enough). Now, you buy them," he budged a little closer. "You buy them at their figure. I have now a party, the finance minister of one of the small new Russian republics. They are short of paper and funds. With a set of type a new issue can be made. That is only a matter of detail."

"Alright, I agree. Now what about the big deal, I especially came over for. What have you ascertained?"

"With what is in the hand in the Berlin archive; the wholesalers; and various banks we can buy, or contrroll by option nearly 85 p. c. of the milliarden issue of the inflation period. How we can get rid of what is over 100,000 lots? Merely grind them up in a paper mill would be crude. What you suggest?"

"Could indeed," sneered the Yankee. "Where is your business acumen? Why not buy a tub, a derelict sailing vessel——"

"You mean," gasped excited the rotund.

"Nothing wonderful. We load the vessel with the tons of that issue, and," meaningly, "that would be the end."

"But, how? Sink the vessel? What become of the men manning the ship?"

"I did not think you had any sentimentality left," sneered the Yankee. "Yes, you got it correct. Sink the vessel. Besides they can save their hides by Providence. Not particular dangerous a few hours out on the North Sea. If a sudden storm came. It would be to bad, and——"

"But where is the captain to effect the sinking?"

"This detail I can attend to. I know a pair of worthies. A couple thousand dollars each will fix that."

"That much?" stopped him the rotund.

"Don't be a piker, besides we can take out insurance on the sailors and hull. Not on the stamps. They must go down, a loss, so we earn the regret of the collectors. One thing more. No option goes. Outright buy. We hold on to our agreement. I can swing 100 000 dollars, or more, and Senior Frontera about the same amount, so can you. Remember, you 40 p. c., I 35 p. c.," and sarcastic, "your prospective son-in-law the other 25 p. c."

The convention was breaking up, and the delegates came pouring out onto the balcony. The two dealers quit, they understood each other, rose and went to the three ladies. The wife of the Yankee insinuating her husband.

"How did you fare under his hand and manipulations?"

"No way to beat him," smiled the Yankee off way. "I flatter myself I kept my end up."

The rotund hailed the waiter, who brought several bottles of the good old Chateau Yquim wine and played the host. The Argentinian was not adverse to have been forced to accept the company of the mature, still vivacious daughter, Victoria Gottleuba, who told him that Geneva was a very old town, already in the year 423 the capital of the Burgundian Kingdom, and that he must take her tomorrow to the Musee Ariana and Kursaal to hear the modern orchestra.

Her mother benignly smiling converse with Yankee's wife. The Yankee invited them to meet for supper at the Restaurant de la Poste.

The delegates saw the rotund Gottleuba and he was hailed as the most important delegate to make an address. Flattered he did so.

The blond bearded man got up also when the two went to the ladies, he took his finger off the camera, patted it lovingly, holding on to it tight, and mingling among the crowd, approaching the party aimlessly, passed them, casting a look at the daughter, who merely raised her eyebrows, smiled momentarily, and continued to converse with her guest.

The party broke up. Senior Frontera escorted the young lady.

What happens will be told in some other contribution to the West by
OSAR THARTAM.

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Here is an authentic little tale that is worth the telling. When Queen Marie was in Chicago, she visited the Hyde Park, Chicago, Y. M. C. A., which has a wide reputation for effective work of constructive kind and is, in fact, one of the sights of that city. It is known to have a live stamp club of boys, incidentally; and when the Queen fared forth there, she was graciousness herself, as always, and spoke to the boys, among whom was William Godfrey, a budding philatelist, who is full of collecting ambition. It was not long before William made known his philatelic leanings and when he did do so, Queen Marie said that her husband, the king, was a real philatelist who busied himself by the hour with his stamps; and she encouraged William to keep up his good work. This red-letter day was Monday, November 15th, and the Tribune of the next morning mentioned how William Godfrey had hobnobbed with the Queen.—Mekeels

The annual meeting of the New York Stamp Society was held in the rooms of the New York Philatelic Society, 20 West 125th Street, December 2. There was a large attendance. President N. R. Hoover was in the chair. The present membership, paid-up, is 87. The following officers for 1927 were elected: President, Dr. E. W. Lawrence; vice president, H. M. Konwiser; corresponding secretary, C. H. Fournier; recording secretary, H. R. Stannard; treasurer, Baldwin Schlesinger; trustees, A. M. Tannenbaum, N. R. Hoover.

A British firm is printing 70,000,000 Portuguese postage stamps, of the design at present in use, the need for which has arisen owing to extensive forgeries of the present issue.

NORWAY STAMPS AS AN INVESTMENT.—By Elias Rasmussen.

In the Nordisk Filatelistisk Tidsskrift for October 31, 1926, R. Falck of Oslo, Norway, gives a short review of Yvert & Tellier-Champion Catalogue for 1927. After mentioning that prices are based on 160 francs Pound Sterling, he gives some interesting comparisons and price quotations. Because the demand for first class material in the classic stamps especially, is on the increase and the supply decreasing, prices in Europe are steadily mounting. It is of particular interest that Norway's three rarest stamps: 3 skill 1863; 12 ore unshaded 1884, pale green; 1½ kr ultramarine 1909—Scott respectively No. 7, 38 and 80 are now priced at 300 francs each. Scott No. 80 has increased from 80 to 300 francs. This, according to Mr. Falck, is not undeserved, as only 22,300 were issued, and he thinks this stamp will increase still further on the world market. So far R. Falck. If we, for convenience figure 160 francs as \$5.00 (1£) the price would be \$9.38, which would be a fair price for these stamps in used condition. Scott's price is respectively No. 7, \$10.00; No. 38, \$10.00 and No. 80, \$5.00. If you then take in consideration the increase in the value of Norwegian kroner—it has doubled in a year—the wise one will pick up all he can, not for Scott Cat. of \$5.00, but at 50 per cent above Scott's prices.

Mr. Falck mentions that the increase of 100 per cent from 1926 to the 1927 Y. & T. Cat. in the stamps of Sweden, Denmark and Finland is an exception while in the case of Norway 20 different stamps of the better class before 1910 have increased exactly 100 per cent. But that is not the most important, for besides these 20 there are 15 other stamps that have increased more than 100 per cent, one of which (1½krone 1909 No. 80 Scott) as much as 275 per cent. This may give all of us something to think about. To me it is no surprise. Some of you probably remember my note a year ago in Collectors Club Philatelist about the prices of Norway. Scott increased the prices of some of Norways but neglected others. The reason why Norway stamps now take such a jump is this, that the stamps of Norway have for years sold at a net price in Norway. During the World War the Norwegian krone was down to one-half its par value. Because of that the stamps of Norway could be bought reasonable enough to sell at a very small margin in U. S. Now, however, the krone has gone up in a few months from 13 cents to 26 cents. The result is that at present the market price in Norway, is in several instances, more than Scott Catalogue prices.

Mr. Falck, a famous philatelist in European circles, states in the September 30 issue of N. F. Tidsskrift, "that No. 6 Norway in very fine condition costs 25 kroner in Norway now." That is \$16.56 at present exchange. Norway No. 7 cost from 37 to 42 kroner for ordinary cancellations or \$9.71 to \$11.03. The famous Norway No. 4 is worth about 15 cents each in quantity and the quality is very poor. In my opinion, if you want Norway stamps, buy them in the United States, buy them now, and buy all you can afford if you want stamps that will make quick and sure increase. Especially watch Scott Nos. 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 13, 15, 20, 26, 32-34, 39, 69-72, 74-76, 78-80, 107, 109. A good copy of Norway No. 4, in my opinion, is worth 25 cents and if very fine, 50 cents each.—Stamp Gossip.

You like to read and see illustrations about collectors and their collections. Do you realize that they are equally anxious to have and see news and illustrations regarding you and your collections? Have you a cut of yourself?

STAMPS THAT GLITTER (Not All Gold).

One of the values in the newest set of Christmas stamps issued by Holland this year is a dainty confection of red and silver. It raises the novel suggestion of a stamp collection resplendent in flashing colors, comprising stamps alive with the sparkle of gold, silver and bronze. There is quite a considerable number of government postage stamps printed wholly or partially with one of these blazoning metals, but the number could be increased, and the gorgeousness enhanced by including some of the Russian and Scandinavian locals. Some of the most spectacular colorings are to be found on Russian locals, such as those of Tikhvin, where a single stamp is found like Joseph's coat in many colors, for example, gold, silver, pale blue, blue, red and black all on the one stamp.

But to keep to stamps more familiar in our catalogues, the first stamps in shining armor were the famous "bears" of Madrid, the 1 cuarto bronze and 3 cuartos bronze, Spain, 1854, both now scarce, as also are the bronze six-pennies of Western Australia of 1857 onwards. In 1862 came the Swiss copper-bronze 60 centimes, and the gold and bronze-gold francs, which are more accessible to the young collector, and the gold franc stamp of 1881 is in many a school-boy's collection.

Persia provides quite an array of stamps in bronze, silver or gold from the 1894 issue onwards, and among the most gorgeous examples are the 50 kran vermillion and gold (1909) and the silvered kran and golden toman values of 1915. They bring us glints of mosques with shimmering domes lit by the eastern sun.

Holland gave us its familiar golden 50 cent in the Nusser type sixty years ago, and most young collectors will remember the brightly silvered and gilded backgrounds of the 1 fl. and 2 fl. Hungary in the "letter" type of 1887. The Dominican Republic issued a 1 peso in gold in 1880, still a cheap item in the catalogues, and Salvador illuminated its 1 centavo and 5 centavos of 1897 with gold. Then there are the higher values of the 1901 set of Greece, 2 drachmai bronze, 3 dr. silver and 5 dr. gold, with similar values and colors in the 1902 postage due set. More recently Danzig has issued the 50 marks 1922 in red or crimson and gold, 5000 marks 1923 in pink and silver, and Bolivia in an extraordinary but unissued set illustrating the gateway of the sun provided them with a golden base.

Gold and silver have also been used for overprints on stamps of the Hejaz, Transjordan (on Palestine and Hejaz), and on the Persian issue of 1925 to commemorate the deposition of the ex-Shah and the advent of the Provisional Pehlevi government.

Most of the stamps so pretentiously arrayed are not expensive, but perhaps the wiseacres will say also that they are not gilt-edged securities.—Stamp Lover.

AN ALTERNATIVE TO SPECIALISM.

The man who indulges in stamp collecting as a hobby usually belongs to one of two classes. He is either a "general collector" or a "specialist," the latter stage being reached by evolution from the former.

Now, there are many general collectors who will never become specialists. They realize the hopelessness of trying to complete a world-wide collection, but they have neither the interest in one small group, nor the passion for minutiae, that will enable them to specialize. They have no wish to give

up collecting, yet to go on without a settled plan leaves them as unsatisfied as ever; they are in the doldrums, and the collection languishes.

One way of getting over the difficulty is to form a simplified collection, cutting out varieties of die, shade, watermark, perforation and so forth. This however, is apt to be unsatisfactory, because such a collection is neither really "philatelic," nor is it even a true summary of postal history.

What, then, is the alternative? Let us see if we can find one.

It has often been said that stamp collecting teaches history, or geography, or any one of a number of other admirable things. This is not strictly true, for stamp collecting does not teach these things; but it does stimulate the desire for knowledge of, and is an admirable "foot note" on them, and it is just this last named attribute of philately that I wish to emphasize.

Philately is or can be made, a fascinating record of "the passing show." It is so closely connected with everyday life, that there is hardly an event of importance that does not leave a record on the pages of the stamp album, and the compilation of this record provides unlimited scope for the collector's activities.

"Yes," you say, "but how is it done?"

Well, there is no rules. The great beauty of the scheme is its lack of convention, its "go-as-you-please-ness." There are no tiresome boundaries, and no attempting to achieve impossibilities. It can be made as simple or as detailed as you like.

Not stamps only, of course, but postmarks, covers, in fact, anything philatelic, will be the material of the collection, and provide the illustrations to the text, composed of cuttings from the newspapers of your own manuscript notes. Is there a revolution somewhere in South America? If so, there will almost inevitably be provisional stamps which indicate the change of government. Is there a "brighter trade" campaign conducted by a Minister of Commerce? If so, you will probably find your correspondence postmarked with a slogan cancellation—"So-and so's Goods are Best." Is there a strike of transport workers? Then your letters may be carried by an emergency air service, as happened in this country during the railway strike of 1919.

It would be possible to detail any number of instances, but these few must serve. Every collector can show examples of something of the kind, and, as I have said, the scope is unlimited.

It must not be imagined that a collection formed on these lines is a mere accumulation of trifles. It is, rather, an epitome of current history, and may have considerable educational value. It can be adapted to deal with one country only, or with many, and in either case the successive issues of stamps, and the reasons which rendered them necessary, can be shown with any desired amount of detail.

Some research will generally be required to provide the explanatory notes, for the collection must, of course, be written up; but, though this is a bugbear to many collectors, I am confident that any trouble taken will be well repaid. A collection such as this will be pleasing not only to its owner, but to others, and will be an admirable example of the human interest that clothes the bare bones of philately.—The Manchester Philatelist.

France has supplied the new country of Alaouites with a set of stamps which have been overprinted in French and Arabic. Alaouites recently declared its independence from Syria.

STAMPS NET FORTUNE TO DENVER MAN—Post—Sent by McConnell.

Collecting stamps as a hobby has brought a fortune of \$38,000 from Europe to the door of August Lutteken, a poor man.

The collection for which the offer was made includes about one quarter million catalogued and mounted stamps, mostly those of the United States and one book of stamps of foreign countries. It will be shipped, heavily insured, from Denver on March 15, 1927, to stamp dealers of Vienna.

Lutteken is 68 years old, and for fifty-three of those years he has followed the fad which will now bring him ease and comfort in old age. He acquired many of the stamps in the eighteen years he served in the British navy. He and his wife, who also is a proficient philatelist, live in a hut set back from the building line of the street. They have been residents of Denver for the last sixteen years.

"I never expected to realize anything from the fad," said Lutteken after he announced he would part with the collection. "Even now that the money is in sight, it doesn't mean so much to me as the joy of collecting the stamps and the education derived from it."

It is one of Lutteken's boasts that he can instantly give the location of any island on the face of the earth as a result of studying stamps and collecting them. The pleasure that a botanist takes in a flower garden, or an artist in his paints and easel, Lutteken derives from his stamps. Each has its separate history and its distinction.

"Here, for instance," said Lutteken, fingering his treasure book of foreign stamps, "is the Dutch Indies collection. One pictures Queen Wilhelmina. I knew her when she was a very little girl. Later comes the stamp with a picture of her father, King William IV of Holland.

"Danzig, the free city, has beautifully blended colors in its stamps, and it was the first city to adopt the airship on the stamp. Finland's stamps also have beautiful colorings. An interesting fact about Egypt's is that their first stamps were done with the old-fashioned wood cut.

"An interesting fact about the Greek stamp is that in 1861 and the early periods they used the profile only, but after 1881 they returned to art."

Among the rare stamps in the collection are the first issue of a one-cent stamp, 1851-1856, in America, catalogued at \$1,250, and the second issue, 1861-1867. He has the first issue of stamps made in Cuba, 1855, and a Czechoslovakian collection valued at \$400. He has the German empire's stamps since the first issue in 1872, and the first stamp issued in Great Britain, "the one-penny black," and the second issue, "the one-penny blue," 1840-41, as well as exceptional collections from Ecuador, Finland and Bosnia in the Balkans. His Canadian stamps are valued at \$900.

One stamp from the isle of Trinidad, dated 1878, is worth \$150, and his collection from that island totals \$365.80. With only fourteen stamps in the Oldenburg, Germany, collection, the value runs up to \$306. The Liberian stamps not only are very beautiful but have a value of \$1,600, and Newfoundland's \$650. He has also a first issue stamp, 1879, from Labuan, Africa.

Lutteken's United States collection mounted, has been twice exhibited at Paris and is valued at \$8,500. Every type of stamp, not only those used on letters but those used for revenue and other purposes, is included.

We understand that a new air stamp will shortly be issued for use in Finland.—Postage Stamp.

THE SUN NEVER SETS IN PHILATELY LAND

By William J. Reed, Member Philatelic Society of Pittsburgh.

Is it true that history repeats itself only to stamp and coin collectors, and possibly a very small percentage of the rest of us who are just casually interested in knowing that the United States commemorates its historical landmarks and achievements traditionally through the beauty of postage stamps and silver half dollars.

This is wrote the year of the Sesqui-Centennial, being held in the city of Philadelphia from June to December, celebrating the one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of American Independence. The United States government and the city of Philadelphia made elaborate preparation for this great event, and which the U. S. mint and post office officials have just issued a splendid Sesqui-Centennial half dollar and two magnificent commemorative postage stamps, the Liberty Bell Sesqui-Centennial, also one in honor of a great Swedish inventor, John Ericsson, the man who designed the famous "Monitor," the forerunner of iron clad warships and submarines. The Sesqui-Centennial stamp is symbolic of all that the old Liberty Bell foretold throughout our great nation at midnight, January 1, 1926, in the air, by the modern "20th Century Paul Revere"—the radio. Likened unto the grim death-like spell that once enthralled our land, it recalls to mind, the famous verse:

"By the rude bridge that arched the flood,

 Their flag to April's breeze unfurled,

Here once the embattled farmers stood,

 And fired the shot heard 'round the world."

Uncle Sam, on this occasion, will arrange a great family reunion, and his guests will be the hosts of Capital and Labor, and amongst this great and powerful populace will be found historians, designers, political leaders, kings and queens, adventurers, men of fame and fortune, captains of industry, the little corner newsboy, and last but not least, the stamp collector, who is interested enough in an occasion of this kind to fully realize the meaning of it all.

The stamp collector, or philatelist, through the medium of his magnificent U. S. collection, will unfold page to page, the stepping stones of history, from beginning to end, Alpha and Omega, in deep thought and meditation, his eyes getting heavy, the workaday world fading away, the sand-man creeping upon him, drowsiness overpowering him, visions dawning—he is in dreamland.

Allegory.

Hello there, Mr. Philatelist! I wish to introduce myself. I am Benjamin Franklin, the first postmaster general of the United States. It is my intention to be remembered throughout history on the very first postage stamp of every regular series, and ask you to promise me on your word and honor to keep my one and only wish. In so doing, and in friendship to you, and love for my fellowmen, let me present to you a sheet of my new issue, the Five-cent Red Brown of 1847, with original gum.

By the way, Mr. Philatelist, I want you to meet some of the other boys, that will also follow me in the postage stamp hall of fame. Allow me to introduce George Washington, a very prominent young man, and whom, no doubt, a still greater future is in store. He is very honest, intelligent and energetic, and I have given instructions to Rawdon, Wright, Hatch and Edson, the government printers, to see that his portrait is engraved on the Ten-cent Black of the first general issue. It is also my wish that he be remembered on the second postage stamp of all regular issues. In his memory, therefore, the printers will mail you several blocks of the Ten-cent Black 1847, on first day covers.

Abraham Lincoln! To be sure, I don't want to forget Abe Lincoln, the third man of my choice, to be recorded in the gallery of fame. Abe, this is Mr. Phil. A. Telist. And say, Abe, bring in the rest of the boys and introduce them to Phil, who has promised to perpetuate the memory of all you boys in his stamp album. (Enter all the rest of the boys.) Well, now, let's have a general handshaking all around, from Tommy Jefferson to Harding and Woody Wilson. (Franklin summons a Messenger). Please arrange to have Stephen C. Foster and his Swanee River Fiddlers present and give the boys some of their entertaining musical ability.

Very well, sir, your request will be granted in the twinkling of an eye. (Messenger departs.)

THE PHILATELIC WEST

Somewhere the pendulum of a grandfather's clock tells us that several golden hours have passed away—and the dreamer dreams on.

Well, well, Mr. Franklin, this is certainly a treat, and I am more than delighted in meeting all of your splendid boys, and indeed will always remember this friendly occasion, not to say anything about Stephen Foster's Fiddling Philatelists.

I must be off, now, as I just have time to make that Stampville express. Where to? Oh, I am just going on a round trip commemorative journey and will return again in time for the Sesqui-Centennial in 1926. So long Ben! So long, Phil, and remember me to "Ye Olde Stamp Club at Ye Hotel Henry" when in Pittsburgh.

All aboard! Ding Dong! Dong! This train for Stampville and all points in the United States, east, west, north and south, with all stopover privileges. The first stopover will be at the famous Columbian Issue, 1893, the first commemorative series of U. S. postage, and for one cent, one can view a stamp picturing, "Columbus in Sight of Land," and for two cents the "Landing of Columbus." You will recall that the artist depicted Columbus somewhat of a magician on these two values, as the one cent shows Columbus to be smooth shaven, while the two cent shows him with a full grown beard. This, of course, proves to the modern man who is inclined occasionally to mix profanity with his shaving, the excellent grade of safety razor blades they must have used in those days. It has also been said by some stamp collectors that Columbus is holding a telescope, on the one-cent variety. This apparent error might prompt Will Rogers to say, "There you are now, folks, take that trick of Columbus holding a telescope in the year 1492, for instance, when no such animal existed at the time, and which only goes to prove that even the stamp artists get chummy with Volstead occasionally."

The three-cent variety shows the "Flagship of Columbus," the four-cent "View of His Fleet." Getting back to a little more nonsense, we ask our readers to notice a ship sailing before the wind, on this stamp, while the wind and waves are obviously coming from the other direction. One don't have to be any Ben Turpin to make a study of this error either.

The next variety, the five-cent, shows "Columbus Soliciting Aid of Isabella," the six-cent his "Welcome at Barcelona" and the eight-cent his "Restoration to Favor." In the ten-cent stamp "Columbus is Mingling with the Natives," in the fifteen-cent he is "Announcing His Discovery," in the thirty-cent he is at "La Rabida," and in the fifty-cent he is "Recalled." Isabella is pledging her jewels on the dollar stamp, on the two-dollar, Columbus is in chains, on the three-dollar variety he is describing his third voyage, and on the four-dollar, he is consulting with Isabella. The five-dollar stamp completes the set, and shows a portrait of Columbus.

The next commemorative set, issued in 1898, in honor of the Trans-Mississippi Exposition, reviews various western events: "Marquette on the Mississippi," "Farming in the West," "Indians Hunting Buffalo," "Fremont on the Rocky Mountains," "Troops Guarding a Railroad Train," "The Covered Wagon Migration," "A Western Mining Prospector," "Cattle in a Storm," and the two-dollar variety, "Mississippi River Bridge" completes this set.

A few years later the Pan-American series of the Buffalo exposition in 1901. These stamps represent the transportation agencies of the United States—lake steamer, steam railway, first automobile, steel arch bridge, ship canal locks and ocean steamship.

The Louisiana Purchase Exposition series of 1904, consists largely of persons connected with the annexation: Robert Livingston, U. S. minister to France at the time; Thomas Jefferson, president; James Monroe, special ambassador to France; William McKinley, who as president approved the acts of congress giving government approval to the exposition. The variety completing the series, ten cent, shows a map of the territory purchased from France.

(Continued in next issue.)

Play honestly, fairly and nobly in the game of stamps,
Any other method brands you vamps.—Sparks.

POSTMARKS

Stamp collectors generally are, more or less, interested in postmarks, and the early types which appear on the covers of 1840 have a special fascination, their crudeness being in keeping with the times as far as post office development goes. As a collector of stamps and a post office man too, it has often occurred to me that the life of the old hand-stamp used for obliterating purposes must have been a lengthy one. I know of one that has been in use at a certain postoffice for over forty years, so that a comparison made between the amount of business in these days and the business existing in 1840 or thereabouts, it would be safe to assume that the early types in use at the time of introduction of the penny postage had been doing their bit for a long period and probably during a portion of the previous century.

Some years ago at a small office in North Wales, one of the old Maltese Cross obliterating stamps that were supplied for cancelling the 1d black and 2d blue of 1840 was still lying there with a few odds and ends in a wooden box and the sub-postmaster, true to his post, would not lose it on any account. The sub-postmaster died and the office changed hands, and as far as can be ascertained the Maltese Cross found its way to the post office scrap heap, to which all its companions were supposed to have been consigned years ago. The old stamp would, perhaps, have been an object of real interest to English collectors, and the failure to secure it probably a loss to philately. It was, like other early types, made of brass.

I often wonder whether the post office department has preserved specimens of the early types of obliterating stamps as footprints in the sands of post office time, marking the heavy tread during the years that concern us most and the impressions of the lightly skipping electric stamping machine upon the almost unconsidered trifles of today. Stamp Lover.

BLESSING OF A PERSONAL HOBBY.

What greater things can be said in its favour than that it is a hobby? A blessing without a disguise! What man is without his hobby? Some have a penchant for books, others for gardening and horticulture, more again for cycling, dancing, boating, yachting, horses, dogs, etc. Look around you on all sides and you will scarcely find one of your acquaintances without his particular hobby.

And it is good that it is so, for of all the blessings that God has bestowed on man, the love of a hobby is one of the greatest, and especially is this so where it is of intellectual origin, as in the case of philately. Were it not for pet hobbies, many of us would spend a considerable portion of our lives in idleness—and it is work, not idleness, which leads to enjoyment. Idleness consumes men more than rust does iron. It leads to degeneracy and waste of vital power. The idle man slides out of existence for sheer want of something to cling to. What a waste of life is his who has no favorite pursuit, no store of thoughts, no happy recollections of what he has done, experienced, or read. The tallow-candler who went back to his tub "on melting days" is better than the retired rich man with "nothing to do." The evening hours of life may be the most beautiful, as the fairest leaves of the rowers are those which the bud the last discloses.

James Watts said with truth, "Without a hobby-horse what is life?" And this was fully exemplified in his own case, for in the early part of his life he was much afflicted with dyspepsia and headache, and often felt that

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he would like to be rid of life altogether. But he took to "inventing," his mind became occupied, his ailments left him, and he lived to enjoy the pleasure of a fine old age.

It is most necessary and wholesome that professional men should have a hobby to take their mind out of their accustomed groove. The enjoyment of the hobby is something to look forward to; it is a diversion, a relief, a rest for the mind, however useless it may seem to others. It must occur to any thinking man that change of work is of itself a relaxation, for everything falls if long indulged in, and most of all where the element of pleasure is wanting.

For those who want recreation, and rest from the anxieties of life it is a great blessing to have a hobby. A man should always have some favorite pursuit which may be always in his power, and to which he may turn gladly in his hours of rest. The chief secret of comfort and happiness is in prudently cultivating an undergrowth of small pleasures, since few great ones are to be had on long leases. "Many run after felicity," says Sharpe "like an absent minded man running for his hat while it is on his head or in his hand." It is, perhaps, one of the necessities of human nature that a man should have one absorbing, engrossing pursuit, to divert his mind from the trials and troubles that surround him in practical life. But small pleasures are not to be neglected; and it is for this reason that hobbies, provided that they do not become morbid, are so useful.

The love of knowledge, and even of apparently useless knowledge, is one of the best preservations against the vulgarity and selfishness of the world. The Gospel mentions idleness as almost the climax of sin—"And withal they learn to be idle, wandering about from house to house; and not only idlers, but tattlers also, and busy-bodies, speaking things which they ought not." It is better even to have a useless hobby than to be a tittle-tattler and a busybody. "Blessed is the man," says Lord Brougham, "who has a hobby, and he himself had many. "Every man has his hobby-horse." ♦Postage Stamp

AMERICA'S WALTER SCOTT.

One of the most interested visitors at the recent New York Exhibition was Mr. Walter S. Scott, who, in the capacity of auctioneer, has seen the dispersal of many of the best American collections. In 1916 he auctioned the famous collection made by the late George H. Worthington of Cleveland, which sold for the then marvelous total of \$370,000. The sale was held in the Murray Hill Hotel, and \$10,000 was obtained for three United States invert, unused, of 1869; a Hawaiian 2c cover brought \$6,000. Mr. Scott was a daily visitor at the first International Stamp Exhibition in New York, held in the Engineers' Club in 1913. Asked to compare that display with the recent one, he said: "Any exhibition that contained the Worthington and Luveen collections must have been an important one. The best of their stamps are today the stars of many important collections."—Stamp Collecting.

• West publisher also was at the sale in New York in 1916.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY ELECTS NEW OFFICERS.

The Philatelic society of Pittsburgh elected new officers at a banquet to members in the Hotel Henry. This is one of the pioneer branches of the American Philatelic society.

Officers elected were: W. B. Hartman, president; Dr. Kenneth M. Day, vice president; David Hahn, secretary and Willard J. Reed, treasurer

MORE PERFORATIONS IN STAMPS TESTED

More holes in a sheet of stamps to make them separate more easily without ripping across the center of one is the object of experiments at the Bureau of Engraving and Printing with perforations of stamp sheets on a rotary press.

This was disclosed by Albert E. Gorham, secretary of the Washington Philatelic Society, at its annual meeting at headquarters of the society, 333 G street. Mr. Gorham said the first of the new stamps was now on sale. They are 2-cent stamps.

The society re-elected officers and the board of governors as follows: President, William Allen Johnson; first vice president, James F. Duhamel; second vice president, William N. Sahn; secretary, Albert E. Gorham; treasurer, Philip Sims Warren; librarian, Dr. M. G. Skinner; sales manager, Theodore E. Forbes, and auctioneer, John D. Smoot.

The new board of governors consists of the president, first vice president, secretary and treasurer, and Valdemar Wedergang, Col. W. N. McKelvy and Russey Howard.

The governing board will meet tonight to consider the advisability of conducting a public exhibition of United States and foreign stamps and stamped paper, such as was given in the Public Library last February.

Charles E. Nickles and Charles Kohen were elected to membership last night. Plans were perfected for the establishment of a juvenile branch of the society.

Let it be some intellectual diversion, like stamp collecting, that you can make use of to refresh yourself after study and business—something that will preserve your health, restore the vigor of your mind, and increase your pleasure, but go not to extremes, and be careful to watch and examine that you be not deceived by the flattery of a present pleasure, to losing a greater.

It is only those who are in total ignorance of the measure of happiness and pleasure which surround a hobby, who affect to sneer at it and treat it with contumely. There is, says a vigorous writer, a maxim underlying the whole pagan philosophy, ancient and modern, *Nil admirari* (admire nothing). It is simply the spirit of the sneering, as Horace says again, *Cum risu miror* (I never admire but I sneer). People who have no hobbies fail to see any cause for admiration in the pursuit of a pleasurable "fad," and with souls bereft of enthusiasm wonder what it is we rhapsodise and sentimentalise over. But how shall a man see when he has no admiring faculty which shall lead him to see? All true appreciation is the result of keen insight and noble passion; but the habit of despising things and persons and holding them cheap blinds the one factor which belongs to the complete result, and strangles the other. He who wonders not largely and habitually in the midst of the everyday discoveries which are being brought to light, does not prove that there is nothing in them worthy of admiration or interest, but only that his own sympathies are narrow, and his capacities small.

"A cultivated mind," says Mill; I do not mean that of a philosopher, but any mind to which the fountains of knowledge have been opened, and which has been taught in any tolerable degree to exercise its faculties, will find sources of inexhaustible interest in all that surrounds it; in the objects of nature, the achievements of arts, the imaginations of poetry, the incidents of history, the ways of mankind, past and present, and their prospects in the future.—Postage Stamp.

EXPLOITING THE COLLECTING GAME.—By P. M. Silloway.

There seems to be a tendency at this time to kill the goose that lays the golden eggs, too much exploitation of the collecting game. There is too great stress laid on the commercial value of any find or acquisition. The chief question now is regarding any desideratum, "What can I get for it?" Many collectors are prouder of the prices paid for things than for the curios themselves. We are urging beginners to get into the game for the financial possibilities in it, and our first thought is to expatiate on the commercial profit of a rare find. We read about the unearthing of a rare autograph or lot of old coins, and broadcast the commercial possibilities in prospect. A strange stamp is found in an attic, and thereupon the sky-scraping value of it is heralded far and wide, when nothing is said about the find as an item worth KEEPING and HOLDING in a collection, the finder is merely lucky because of what he will get for the prize. In other words, we are urging beginners to become hobbyists with the idea of selling the desiderata at fabulous prices rather than their becoming owners of desirable collections.

One folly of the present exploitation of commercial values of holdings is that people not collectors having any kind of old coin imagine they have a treasure-trove and they fear to dispose of anything lest they lose money on the deal. Recently I wandered into a junk-shop where a dealer had a few old coins displayed in his window, and I found that he had on the inside a half dozen large cents of common dates in merely good condition. Incidentally I remarked that such coins were worth from six to eight cents in bargain lots, and he sniffed sarcastically as he put back the coins, ignorant of the fact that I had over-priced his coins as he suspected I was trying to cheat him in a trade.

I find that people who have seen the circus advertising regarding extravagant prices paid for old coins are very chary of selling any old coin even when more than current prices are offered for their possessions. Lately a local barber called me into his inner room and showed me a small collection of common old coins. He had nothing I wanted, but I made him an inventory of the selling prices of his coins, using Elder's and Shultz's price lists in his presence, and he was quite disappointed to find that he hadn't a small fortune in the fifty-ordinary coins he had accumulated. He wouldn't sell even when I made him a friendly offer of the prices advertised in the selling lists. This case is the result of flaring advertisements in national magazines figuring fictitious values of unique coins. A month later this man passed away rather abruptly, and his property including the coins went to remote heirs; the poor fellow died without knowing that such advertisers wouldn't buy his coins at a penny above par value while I offered him more than they were really worth. The loud-sounding exploitation of "What I pay" makes it difficult for the ordinary collector to buy at all.

Right now certain firms are advertising, "Don't sell your old coins, they may be worth hundreds of dollars," etc. The good people who read such fables are afraid to sell to you and me, for fear of getting the worst of the deal, while it is certain that such advertisers won't pay them as much for their coins as friendly collectors would. The situation has come about because of exploitation of cases which can never be duplicated. Suppose a round dozen of 1804 U. S. silver dollars should turn up today and you were the finder, would you expect to get a thousand dollars for each of them?

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Even a second 1913 Liberty head nickel wouldn't be worth nearly as much as the first one discovered.

An immoderate use of the term "rare" and "scarce" tends to the exploiting of the collecting game. Here comes a price list or an auction catalogue, with the bulk of the items marked "rare" or "scarce," giving the prospective bidder or buyer the impression that the coin or curio so marked is about the last one to be had in the market. Citing the 1904 U. S. silver dollar, generally mentioned as "rare," once last year I inferred that specimens of this dollar were really getting scarce, and I made several purchases at ruinous premiums. Later, in going through a sack of two hundred silver dollars at the local bank, I picked out SIX of these dollars in almost uncirculated condition. Also, with the 1921 Morgan dollar, used in exploiting the collecting game, I found two in extremely fine condition among the afore-said dollars, even while I was bidding above \$1.50 for them in auction sales. About one out of every twenty Liberty head nickels circulating in this region is a very good or better D mint. In looking over three hundred Indian head small cents recently, I found a half dozen or more fine ones of 1908 and 1909 S mint, and 1909 Lincoln is so common that it ought to be worth not more than two cents at most. This is what I call exploiting the collecting game, killing the goose that lays the golden eggs.

Whenever a commemorative coin is issued, collectors are given the impression that they must hurry and buy or they probably won't get one. This was the case when I bought my first Columbian half dollar at the Exposition grounds in Chicago, and today there are still plenty of these coins on the market, at much the same prices. This summer I hurried and bought a Sesquicentennial half dollar for \$1.50, and a month later I bought another for \$1.25, someone was exploiting the game for the twenty-five cents difference.

Another feature of this exploitation is that it forms a hindrance to the younger generation in becoming collectors, so that there is no new crop in prospect. In my history classes in high school I frequently show the students coins relating to the period we are studying, and suggest the utility of their starting collections of their own, for instance by acquiring the commemorative coins as they are issued. At once the question arises, "What will I have to pay for this one?" Well, the commemorative half dollars are generally listed at \$1.50 as issued. Result, can't afford it, and the ranks of collectors are rarely recruited from boys and girls. Even very few mature beginners appear in the collecting game. As a race, they are withering from the land, and the places which know them now will soon know them no more. Did it ever occur to you fellows that there aren't enough dyed-in-the-wool collectors at present to snap up your offerings at present prices, and that young collectors are as scarce as hens' teeth? Why isn't the younger generation getting into the game? Collecting of any kind has become an expensive hobby, prohibitive to anyone without a good salary.

Have you ever noticed that many of the present collectors want to become dealers? The game looks very simple. Dealers advertise that they will pay as much as four dollars per hundred for very good large cents; in another book they offer to sell you these same cents for twenty-five cents each. Looks easy, doesn't it? In one list a dealer wants me to pay \$6.50 for a nice old dollar, and in another book he tells me he will give me \$2.50 for it when I am tired of it. Who wouldn't be a dealer in these halcyon days of exploitation?

What the game needs at this time is not more dealers, but more encouragement of the younger generation. The game is suffering from exploitation at the top. In my opinion, there isn't a thing going the rounds that might arrest and hold the attention of beginners in collecting, probably outside of stamps, and there the prospect is also too vast and expansive. When these few hundred old-timers fill up their missing desiderata, it certainly ain't gonna rain no more, the game will have reached its finish. If a youngster does take a notion to get into the game, how is he going to learn about it? Not from encyclopedias and rare coin books, nor from all these offerings for advanced collectors. For the interests of the future of the collecting game, these facts are submitted to a candid world. We have no remedy to prescribe, this is up to those who are exploiting the game.

ROESSLER SAYS IN THE AIRPLANE STAMP NEWS

Collectors are warned against covers alleged to have been carried by Sir Alan Cobham from the Homeric to the shore in a plane called The Moth. These covers are being offered to collectors as having been flown. Through collusion with the postmaster at Milburn, N. J., the letters were backstamped, in violation of the P. O. regulations. This is a fraudulent effort to trim air mail cover collectors and is now being investigated by P. O. D. by first assistant P. M. G. Bartlett.

Official news from Canada P. O. D. through kindness of W. J. Glover, the director of stamp division: "The 2c on 3c stamp I regret to say is printed only in very small quantities. It was intention of the department to have large number of 3c stamps, which they had on hand, surcharged 2c, but the work was not satisfactory and it was decided to abandon it. First it was tried by King's Printer and then by Canadian Bank Note Company. On the first lot only 500 sheets of the best specimens were kept for philatelic purposes and of the second 1,000 sheets."

JAMAICA'S "PUZZLE PICTURE" STAMP.—HUMAN HEAD WHEN REVERSED.

A curious "puzzle-picture" stamp has just been issued in Jamaica. The design of the stamp is a seated negro child. But if the stamp is held upside down at arm's length a very clear picture of a man with moustache and beard, and wearing a clerical collar, can be seen.

"This is the most remarkably distinct unintentional feature in a stamp we have ever seen. There have been others, notably the Death Mask stamp of Serbia, but none have been so clear and pronounced as this one.

"There are two other denominations of the set, the 1d and 2½d, but the designs are different.

"They were issued last winter in aid of the child welfare funds, and sold at a premium of a halfpenny each stamp. They were quickly withdrawn, but have just been put on sale again for three months."—Weekly Dispatch.

ERRORS ENHANCE STAMPS.

Stamp collectors will sometimes pay hundreds of dollars for a stamp marred through error at time of issuance. For instance, a stamp issued in Greece in 1919 with the surcharge upside down, was held worth \$600 to some philatelists, but when it was discovered that another sheet or two of these stamps had got into circulation, the price dropped to \$60. Philatelists maintain that these oddities in stamps are important signposts in history.



BOILED DOWN

ORIGINAL OR OTHERWISE

There is no hobby so fascinating, so educational and withal so financially profitable as stamp collecting. The King of Hobbies and the Hobby of Kings.

Advertising pays—Send West your copy in. Tell It, Sell It.

Any collector who only collects and specializes in one country is not a philatelist, merely an accumulator.

Western franks and patriotic covers are some favorites. Got any for sale?

Others find it pays to use West. How about You? Better send in some today. Costs Less, Produces Best.

Ireland is to mint her own coins for the first time in a hundred years.

A collector who started in 1879 and spent not over \$300.00 on his collection during his lifetime, sold his stamps in 1916 for \$15,000.00.

What we want is a little variation for the type of first day cancellation.

Collector friends, our sphere is the sphere of true and world-wide friendship! Are not distant friendships often the most sincere and the most durable?

The Gutenberg Bible of St. Paul's monastery in Carinthia, brought, when sold, \$300,000.

Buy that stamp you need today. This will banish all the worry about how much it will rise in catalogue value during the next ten years.

A Fair Trial X Ad will prove it pays. Longer you stay, better it pays.

"Hush! while you have the legs—There are no birds in last year's eggs."

Thousands have found West Ads bring good results. Why not you? Try them.

Commemoratives and pictorial issues are boosters for stamp collecting.

Look over OUR Ads, surely there is something there you want.

An advertisement in West will bring results. It reaches the collectors you want to get in touch with.

Stamp and coin collecting is without doubt the greatest hobby on earth that any one can follow to his heart's content.

Get all the stamps you can get and when you get rich, get all you can't get.

A new stamp-issuing land philatelic lists. It is called Tannou-Touva, and its postal issues will be chronicled in future albums either under that name or under Northern Mongolla.

If you expect something good in stamps or coins for nothing, you will get something good-for-nothing.

Choose neither a wife, a stamp nor a coin by gas light. You'll surely be disillusioned the next day.

Collectors are paying as high as \$50 for old-fashioned dime novels.

There is no hobby like stamp collecting for anyone. Many advanced collectors invest their capital rather in good stamp collection instead in any other securities. There must be a reason. To know the mystery of this great hobby start a collection and you will like it.

Tell advertisers you saw their advertisement in WEST magazine.

NUMISMATICS



Of all antiquities coins are the smallest, yet in a class, the most authoritative in record, and the widest in range. No history is so unbroken as that which they tell; no geography so complete; no art so continuous in sequence; nor so broad in extent; no mythology so ample and so various. Unknown kings, lost towns, forgotten civilizations, new schools of art, have here their authentic record.

Please send us notes and clippings on coinage, currency, medals, etc. We will appreciate such a favor and give credit for all that is sent. In co-operation with us in this way you will help make the contents of our department more interesting. M. SORENSON, 1923-C AVE., EAST, CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA.

A junk dealer in Stockholm has bought eighty tons of war time coins. The government minted \$103,150 in small iron pieces during a shortage of copper.

Thus reads a press item, and as usual do newspapers get things mixed up. The iron coins were struck by the three Scandinavian countries not because there was a shortage of copper, but because copper coins were smuggled out of the countries and sold to Germany.

Ireland is to mint her own coins for the first time in a hundred years. The law assimilating Ireland's currency with that of England was passed in 1825, but the Free State parliament recently decided to establish a token silver, nickel and copper coinage up to forty shillings (about \$10). Eminent artists have been asked to assist the government in the designs of the new coins. The first Irish coins were struck by the Danish kings of Dublin in the 10th and 11th centuries.

Recently the Mint of England was approached about striking the new coins, but refused to do so because the designs did not bear the likeness of King George as all coins of other colonies do.

Mary Juanita Blackburn is the only California girl who ever received a gold medal from the President of the United States. She was selected by a committee headed by the governor as the bravest girl in the state because of her heroism in acting as mother to a brother and several sisters. The medal was the Youth Award of the Sesqui-Centennial Exposition at Philadelphia.

The Danish government has issued 1 and 5 krone bills and 50, 25 and 10 ore coins, bearing pictures of polar bears and icebergs, for use in its Greenland trade.

From the Danish mint, and for circulation in Denmark, has been issued new 1 and 2 krone coins in the same composition as the new 50 ore pieces. The composition is two parts copper, six parts aluminum and the rest copper. This composition has a pleasant yellow appearance. These coins are to take the place of the 1 krone notes, issued during and after the war.

Knud Rasmussen tells in his book about his explorations in Greenland and the arctic regions: "Tobacco is the most valuable medium of exchange in those regions. We had with us sixty-five pounds of tobacco, partly for our own use, but also to be used as money. Real money has no value there. In trading we found that we could get more for tobacco than for anything

use. Our supply did not last long, but fortunately we secured a new supply from the Hudson Bay Company."

A medal was issued at Brussels, commemorating the marriage of prince Leopold to princess Astrid of Sweden. It bears their portraits and names.

The Atchison (Kansas) Globe, commenting on the Sesqui-Centennial coinage, says: "We now know how to make it easy to finance the next Corn Carnival. Half a million legal tender 50-cent pieces have been coined by the government for the Philadelphia Sesqui-Centennial, the coin containing portraits of President Coolidge and George Washington, which sell at 100 per cent profit. The same has been done in financing the Stone Mountain and other projects. The government, having set a precedent, will be hounded to death for similar favors.

At the Sesqui-Centennial exposition the U. S. treasury department exhibited a modern coining press in operation. Bright metal discs were fed into the machine and came out as finished money at a faster rate than most of us are able to earn it. The first coining press operated by our government was also exhibited; it was built in Philadelphia in 1789, and looked very primitive compared to the modern electric coining press.

The dollar bill, said to be the most popular form of money, has a life of but six months duration, it is understood. Again popularity and a fast life exact their toll.

WORLD SEARCH FOR WALKING STICKS—580 DIFFERENT KINDS.

There is a man in New York named Rudolf Block who has spent a lifetime in collecting walking sticks, though he never uses a stick himself when he goes for a walk.

"I have 580 walking sticks of different woods or different colors or markings," he writes in the Forestry Journal, and he adds, "I want more. When I have one thousand sticks finished I want to exhibit them in some public museum."

Mr. Block has written to all parts of the world and foresters, timber merchants, government officials, missionaries, travelers and steamship companies supplied him with hundreds of varieties of sticks of wood.

He states that he has sometimes spent as much as a year searching for just the right handle for a stick in order that the qualities of the wood should be specially emphasized.

"There is a walking stick made of balsa wood," he says, "as light as a feather. To emphasize this quality I had a handle of meerscham made for it. Then there is a stick of pao ferio from Brazil which seems as heavy as lead. I selected the heaviest rhinoceros horn handle I could find in London to make it look even heavier.

"My highest ambition just now is to obtain a stick of the pink ivory wood and some specimens of the wonderfully figured brown wood so highly prized in China. It is as beautiful as any flower."

LIBERTY DOLLARS.

Q. When were the first Liberty silver dollars coined in the United States? What is their present value?

A. The first Liberty silver dollars of the United States were coined in 1836. There were 1000 silver dollars of this description coined in that year. Coin dealers value them at \$4 to \$10.

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THE U. S. MINT COLLECTION.

F. Greenclay of Denver has in the last issue of "West" found occasion to bring some corrections to an article on the U. S. Mint Collection in the previous issue of "West." Concerning the much discussed 1804 silver dollar it is still an unsettled question among expert numismatists whether any silver dollars really were coined in 1804. Dies were engraved sure enough—these were found much later and re-strikes made, and these re-strikes, numismatists believe, are the only 1804 silver dollars ever existing. History reveals nothing on the subject. The mint report states that so many silver dollars were coined in 1804, but this means during the fiscal year 1804, not the calendar year 1804, so the report does not settle the question. The story about the entire coinage of 1804 silver dollars being lost in a ship wreck is an unverified myth. So much for the 1804 silver dollar.

About the 1849 \$20.00 gold piece I am willing to admit that it is unique as it was the first and only piece struck in that year, but it must also be said that the piece is without historical interest. It never circulated, never left the mint. Any government has it within its power to create "uniques" in that manner if it chooses to do so. And the same may be said about the \$50.00 patterns.

It is true that the collection of territorial or private gold coins is fine but why shouldn't it be? The mint had the best possible chance to save some of these coins when they were turned in for re-coinage.

Mr. Greenclay assumes the role of a schoolmaster when he exclaims "Don't let anyone tell you that our government coin collection is poor." I will promise him that I will not do that. But I did not say that it was poor. That would be slandering it. I said it was small, and so it is—very small for a large, rich country like ours. It is an undisputable fact that many a private collector spends more money every year on his collection than the United States government spend on our national coin collection. I judge by comparison. I have seen our collection and I have seen some of the large state collections in Europe, and I can assure Mr. Greenclay that in some of these collections may be found coins—many of them—just as valuable as any in our collection. It is not necessary to mention that the principal European countries have a coinage reaching back 1,000 years while our national coinage extends back just 150 years.

The undertone in Mr. Greenclay's note is the usual one: We are the "biggest" and the "best." This is all very well—it may even be called patriotic—while we are tramping around in our own back yard, but when we visit some of our neighbors and see what they have it often becomes necessary to discard many of our home nourished ideas.—M. Sorensen.

"FORGING" AUTOGRAPHS.

An interesting collection of autographs has come to a Pennsylvania blacksmith, who, in a sense, has forged all of them, though none are forgeries. For years he has amused himself by hammering out little iron horseshoes about one-half inch by five-eighths, perfect in every detail, as good luck charms. He sent them to distinguished persons, most of whom made acknowledgment by autographed letter. So he now has the names of some three thousand celebrities, including kings, princes, bankers, merchants and artists, and is firm in the belief that the horseshoe is indeed an emblem of good luck.

PARAGRAPHS FOR THE HOBBYIST.—By W. Straley, Independence, Mo.

"Antique, lady?" echoed the salesman. "Of course it's an antique. This hair was used in the original production of *Abie's Irish Rose*."—Saturday Evening Post.

What has become of the hair-raising nickel thrillers of old—
Those tales of Spanish galleons with their rich cargoes of gold?
How as boys we stole off to read them, oft got to bed quite late,
And soon lay dreaming of pirates, doubloons and pieces-of-eight!

Theo J. Venn in Typographical Journal.

The newspapers announce the discovery of a magnificent collection of art objects, gold and silver treasures in a tomb which has been discovered by a Swedish archaeological mission in Peloponnesus, valued at twenty-five million dollars.

A carpet, originally made for a shah of Persia in 1550 and valued at one-half million dollars, was exhibited in London recently. One man was occupied twenty years weaving it.

In this age of plentiful and cheap printing there would seem to be no reason for anyone to have to steal to satisfy his hobby for reading books. Nevertheless, some weeks ago, one Frank Cummings, fifty-one years of age, a student of history and geography, was arrested for stealing a copy of Darwin's "Origin Species" from a New York book store. It is said that he has spent half of the past fifteen years in prison for similar thefts.

A Nebraska exchange states: "The files of the State of Nebraska vs. William B. Hickok were ordered transferred Monday by Judge Moss from Beatrice to the State Historical Society. This is by request of George Hansen who has been working for some time trying to find the official records of that famous old murder case. The records were found in Gage county just recently by Mr. Hansen. In the most of the papers Wild Bill is called Dutch Bill. The case was tried July 14, 15, 16, 1861. Wild Bill was discharged."

Museum models of insects, two hundred times life size make up a unique collection the most complete of its kind, which has just been put on view in the Natural History Museum, London, England. Of the total half million species of insects inhabiting the globe, about sixty carry diseases that affect man or animals. The forms of this fatal coterie have been modeled in wax by three gifted artists of the British Museum staff under the supervision of an entomologist, Maj. E. E. Austen, to make as intelligible as possible to the general public the earmarks by which to recognize the harmful bugs.

While searching the dusty garrets of the ministry of war in Paris recently, several Napoleonic relics were uncovered, and were removed to the Napoleonic Museum at Malmaison. Among the articles discovered was the mahogany desk Bonapart used when first consul, a massive bronze and iron chest, and a number of tapestries, chairs and other furniture.

The University of Mississippi is offering a course in folklore, giving college credit for the completion of the same. Thus Mississippi will preserve and present to future generations "the old-time ballads, fables, place names and traditions."

A mold-board plow, 96 years old, was exhibited at the Nebraska state fair.

A cradle, the only one in existence which the State Historical Society knows that a Nebraskan has owned and used attracted the attention of the passing throng at the recent Nebraska State Fair. This cradle was said to reap as high as eight acres of grain a day under the skillful hands of its

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owner. A huge buffalo robe; a spinning wheel, an old Dutch oven; and Indian garments, arrows, mortar and beadwork all suggested stories of Nebraska's past history.

James Cruze, the well known Paramount director, has a mania for collecting elephants. He has gathered together a herd of some 228 miniature statuary pachyderms, fashioned from various materials and in every conceivable pose. He says: "There's no particular reason for my collecting them, except that I think everyone should have some hobby or fad and elephants just happens to be mine."

"What is the hardest case of bad luck you have ever heard of?" "Why, that of the Indian who buried his money in a field while he went for a long journey, and, when he returned, found a ten-story building erected on the site of his buried wealth."—Exchange.

For some time past I have been excavating an ancient Maori encampment that is near our house. So far I have found stone knives and other implements of stone and from the remains of their cooking places I have taken bone fragments and sea shells. Some of the bone fragments are of the ancient Moa bird.

The Moa was a wingless bird, in shape something like the Emu or the Cassowary, but a great deal larger in size. They were of all sizes, up to twelve and even sixteen feet in height.

This bird lived only in New Zealand but has been extinct 200 years or more. It is doubtful if they were ever seen by a white man.

The egg of the Moa was of the ordinary egg shape about twelve inches long. I think only one or possibly two complete eggs have been found. Fragments are sometimes met with. I had two pieces given to me a short time ago; these are about one sixteenth of an inch in thickness.—Alex. F. M. Paterson of New Zealand.

NOTES HERE AND THERE.—By L. A. Cardwell.

The ten and twenty centavo Mexican piece coined in Mexico in 1918 will be withdrawn from circulation in that country on July 31 of this year. After October 31 the government will not redeem this money.

All interested in Archaeology should write the Bureau of Ethnology at Washington for a copy of Bulletin 79, "Blood Revenge, War and Victory Feasts Among the Jibaro Indians of Eastern Equador." Among other things it describes the methods in use among the Jibaros to shrink the heads of enemies slain to the size of an orange.

Mexico has removed the one centavo grass-hopper tax on letter postage. Last fall when grass-hoppers became so numerous in southern and central Mexico that crops were being destroyed, it became necessary to raise revenue to exterminate them, so a two-cent tax was imposed on first class matter. The postage rate in that country is now eight centavos on first class matter.

Recent excavations on uninhabited islands in Berling sea are reported to have brought to light evidence that America was originally inhabited by migrations from northern Asia.

At a recent sale in New York \$2,500 was bid for two Austrian banners of the sixteenth century. At the same sale \$29,870 was realized for armor and arms of the period.

A first book in the Magyar language printed in 1430 was recently brought to light in Vienna. It is valued at \$5,000.

THE ROMANCE OF COLLECTING RELICS.—By W. C. White Jr.

The collector of guns and other relics of war always has material for romance at hand. Every piece has some history, legend, tradition or romance connected with it and handed down from owner to owner. Sometimes two conflicting or contradictory traditions become attached to the same weapon and the collector-owner vacillates from one theory to the other in doubt as to which to accept and which to reject.

There is the Civil War revolver with the scratched initials C. H. on the butt which was found in the holster marked Geo. W. Lewis in the flap. Did George Lewis find the gun on the battlefield to replace his lost one? Or did the pistol and holster meet for the first time long after the war was over? Who was C. H.?

Take that 1712 Brown Bess musket reputed to have been picked up after the battle of Lexington and kept in the finder's family until sold to the collector who sold it to the present collector-owner. Was that musket actually picked up on the battleground? The marks "1" over "54" engraved rudely on the brass plate embedded in the stock are not the regimental numbers of any British regiment which fought at Lexington. Was the musket used in the French and Indian wars and picked up by some colonial militiaman? Did the mythical militiaman carry the piece at Lexington and drop it for a newer one? Here we are back around the circle again. Was it carried at Lexington? Who knows?

Then the model 1855 bayonet which might have been used by either of two men in the Civil War. One in the 4th Mass. Artillery and the other in the 11th Mass. Infantry. The marking G-78 on the brass hilt does not help. Seventy-eighth what?

Was that Italian bayonet, found with a collection of Civil War relics, used by the North, the South or by neither? And the same question might be asked about the French saber and the British bayonet, ones like which are known to have been used at that time by both sides.

Did that infantry saber see service in both the Revolution and War of 1812, or was it made since 1800? Makers name and proof marks are illegible.

Did the 1824 Harper's Ferry musket altered to percussion cause a meeting or a desertion in the early part of the Civil War? Many did. Why? Because the new cone placed on the top of the barrel was as liable to fly out backwards as the gun was to shoot.

The Navy revolver found with a cavalry saber and canteen in an old trunk presents another mystery. Was it used in the cavalry although originally intended for the navy? Or did the owner pick it up after the war? Again. Who knows.

These questions and more may give an idea of the romance the collector finds in his pursuit after relics.

GIRL FINDS 1783 COIN, MARYLAND DIME, IN LOT.

A Maryland dime, dated 1783, one of the rarest of old American coins, was unearthed from a lot in Sparta, N. J., by Alice H. Padgett, 15.

The girl was playing in the lot adjoining the school she attended, when she came upon the coin, which she at first thought was an ordinary cent. Examining it more closely, she took it home and showed it to her father, Joseph Padgett, who consulted a numismatist.

The coin is said to have a sale value of \$300.—Gooch.

WHY I BECAME A COLLECTOR AND WHAT I COLLECT.—By E. E. Harris.

One day, along about 1867 I bought some candy and received in change my first and only encased stamp. I went across the street and spent it. I little dreamed that it would one day be in great demand by collectors. Some time later I found out that the postmaster received war tokens in exchange for postage stamps.

I gave him a call and bought about a dozen tokens of him.

I suppose the collector's bee began to buzz in my head about that time and it is still buzzing yet.

We lived where there had been an Indian battle fought at one time or there had been a large Indian village.

There were many Indian arrow and spear heads to be found around in that locality. I picked up about two hundred nice specimens and later a neighbor boy plowed up several where they had been buried at some time. After I learned where he had found them I dug around and found seventeen more fine specimens. They were all perfect in condition. They were made double pointed with no notches on the edges, about five or six inches in length, and of a blue black in color. They were of a kind not used in hunting or war.

Since then my nephew has plowed up a lot of spear heads and flint knives. I suppose the Indians who buried them were killed in war and their friends did not know where they buried them.

When I had gotten together two hundred fine pieces a collector came along and offered me five dollars in gold and thinking it would be easy to assemble another lot, I let them go. By this time the most of the land had been plowed up and I found the time had past to find another lot as good as the one I had parted with.

My grandfather had been a gunsmith and I suppose I inherited a fondness for firearms. I began collecting anything that would shoot or cut and in a short time I had another collection.

Later on I had the luck to get a few fine pieces, this ruined me in a way as the old rusty pieces did not look good to me so I sold all but the best. I am perfectly willing to let the young collector have all of the poor pieces. I have found that one good piece is worth a half dozen poor ones.

I collected a lot of fine coins along with the arms but soon found that these did not mix well so I sold all but the fine ancient silver ones.

I have bought a few pieces of armor but find it comes very high if you get the real old specimens that are in fine condition.

I have an old steel helmet of a kind that was made early in the fifteenth century. The helmet runs up to a sharp top and the visor down and out to a point. There is two slots to look through and a lot of small holes to breath through. The padding and lining of course are gone. There is an old breastplate in the lot which has been hand forged from an ingot of steel. It has the armorer mark on it. There are also four steel cuirasses. One of these was made in Brussels in 1816 and has the original lining yet in it.

There is a pocket behind the back of the breastplate to carry food or something to drink. The breastplate weights twelve pounds and the back plate four.

I have two suits of Japanese armor. I don't think it would have been of much help to the wearer in a fight with a European.

As the Japs did not mix with the other nations I suppose their armor was

THE PHILATELIC WEST

good enough. I have a two handed Swiss sword. It is seventy-four inches in length. Sir Walter Scott had seven of these swords in his armory. I have often wondered what has become of them. In Sterling castle there is a sword which has the point broken off and the blade is still six feet in length. The owner was a Scott giant about eight feet tall. He certainly could cut a swath with this weapon.

In the days gone by it certainly took some courage to stand and fight, give and take. The foot soldier had the best of a knight when he hamstrung his horse and got the knight on the ground.

Some of the soldiers carried iron mauls to crack a knight's armor like a turtle shell.

In the Spanish-American war some of the soldiers were supplied with steel shields for protection while cutting the wire entanglements, but did not always use them as they were a nuisance to carry.

Even fine reproductions of armor are sought after by millionaires.

Fine armor is very rare and is very expensive to buy.

There is some very fine pieces in The Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City.

At the Worlds Fair held in Chicago in 1893 there was a great collection of arms and armor owned by Zschille of Germany. It was housed in a two story building and the fee of admittance was fifty cents. Most of the people thought it too much and preferred to give their money to the shows on the midway.

In this great collection there were equestrian figures, dummies in armor, armor polished and armor enameled black and damaskeened in gold with beads of gold clinging to it. There were a pile of hallbreds and other arms. There was a fine copy of the sword worn by Cortez when he conquered Mexico. There was a bronze helmet taken from the Tiber in Rome where it had lain for twenty-five centuries. There were carvings in ivory that had once belonged to the royal families of Europe. There was a helmet and colletin or gorget hammered from one piece of steel to show the workman's skill in metal.

The people of today do not appreciate the work of the armorer in the past. He knew how to work steel like a tailor does cloth.

He could expand and contract it with ease, thin and thicken it without a crack. He was it's master. One of his most difficult jobs was to raise a comb on the top of a helmet without thinning the metal. Armor is something that rust is ever attacking and it requires a lot of care. There is no complete suit of thirteenth century armor in existence. There are many fragments.

In the Caucasus and Thibet ring mail is still worn.

The Oriental mail is not so good as the European. In the latter the rings are either welded or riveted. There is a coat of mail in The Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York that has two hundred thousand rings in it and they are riveted. To make this coat would take one man about a life time.

Without armor Cortez would never have conquered Mexico. He landed there with about five hundred men and with a lot of courage and the cunning of a Spaniard he made himself a conquerer. He burnt his ships and his men had to fight or die.

A few years ago there was a shirt of mail sold in New York that had at

one time belonged to one of the followers of Pizarro in Peru. It with a lot of other things had been treasured by some family in Lima where the owner had left it on his return to Spain.

When gunpowder came into use armor went out. Some of the greatest scenes of the past have been depicted by embossing armor. The work of the embosser survives after it's maker has gone to dust.

Here are some of the prices at which a few choice pieces of armor and arms sold for in London in 1888.

Philip IV of Spain's breastplate \$750. Page's suit of armor \$500. Portion of a small suit of armor \$1,025. Suit of armor, very fine with twelve extra pieces for jousting \$5,000. Dagger, very fine \$1,000. Knight's sword \$675. Cuirass \$100. Bronze Shield \$120. Halbred, engraved and pierced \$150. Steel morion \$500. Fluted helmet \$200. Cutel or short sword \$600. Pole axe \$90. Italian poniard \$175. French rapier \$410. Shield \$215. Engraved spear \$180.

BankNotes dating back more than 100 years, relics of the days when about 6,000 people constituted the population of what is now the metropolis of Toronto, one of them of date of 1837—the year of the William Lyon Mackenzie Rebellion—continue to be sent the Southeast Corner.

The oldest bank note which the editor of the Southeast Corner has received is an American one, a bill of 20 shillings, "due from the Massachusetts Colony to the possessor," dated Boston, New England, Feb. 3, 1690. Record of it is sent by Henry Immel, Wellandport, Ont., who also forwards reproductions from a silver dollar of 1821.

In addition to the one-dollar bill, A. E. Bastedo of Osgoode Hall, Toronto, sends in for inspection a three-dollar bill and a ten-dollar bill, being on the Bank of Upper Canada, dated Kingston, Jan. 1, 1820, and Kingston, Jan. 3, 1822, respectively.

Mr. Grant, of the firm of Grant & Grant, solicitors, has forwarded a ten-shilling note on the Agricultural Bank of Upper Canada, dated October, 1837, and W. J. Evans, 181 Walmer Road, Toronto, a three-dollar Niagara Suspension Bridge note, dated Queenstown, Oct. 13, 1840.—Sent by Butler.

QUARTER "13" COIN—UNLUCKY NUMBER APPEARS MANY TIMES.



Thirteen occurs in all sorts of combinations on the quarter-dollar. There are thirteen stars surrounding the head on the face of the coin; the words quarter dollar contain thirteen letters; there are thirteen stars in the constellation above the eagle's head, and, in the streamer floating from the beak, there the thirteen letters, E Pluribus Unum.

Each wing of the eagle has thirteen feathers and there are the same number in its tail. The lower part of the shield on the eagle's breast has thirteen stripes; in the sheaf held in the right claw are thirteen arrows and in the left claw is an olive branch with thirteen leaves.—N. Y. Times.

TEN POUND NOTE PLACED IN MUSEUM.

Charleston, S. C.—The Colonial ten pound note sent to Mayor Thomas P. Stoney by George W. McQuinn of London, England, has been turned over to the Charleston museum and will be displayed, along with five other Colonial notes, commencing Saturday, it is announced by Miss Laura M. Bragg, director. The one presented by Mr. McQuinn is the oldest of the group and the only one received from sources outside of South Carolina. It is dated June 1, 1775. The signatures to it are as follows: B. Waring, Thomas Corbett, P. Bacot and John Neufville.

BIBLIOGRAPHY



Edited by Rev. Adair, 1715 Champa, Denver, Colo. Under this heading we will publish all inquiries pertaining to books. Questions and answers of interest to our readers will be published here each issue. Parties having interesting notes and items send to the above.

If you may range the world with the magic of a Book; plunge into scenes of exotic lands and countries, and cheat expectation and solitude of their weary moments.

Americana still holds its place among the favored hobbies of book collectors. The scarce items bring higher prices at every sale and each dealers catalog invariably records some advance in price.

Perhaps aside from the books, one of the most remarkable advances that has been made in recent years, has been the scarce autograph of Burton Gwinnett, signer of the Declaration of Independence. Starting at a comparatively high price at its first appearance in an auction sale, this item sold for over \$22,000.00 last year. A record price for this year brought over \$28,000.00.

Shakespeare's first folios are sound investment, judging from the comparison of auction prices—when one which had sold for \$3,410.00 in 1864, had risen within late years to \$43,000.00.

Manuscripts of modern authors have in many cases risen to remarkably high prices during the author's lifetime. For instance Conrad's manuscripts which in recent years before the author's death, brought over \$8,000.00 each.

Notes on English Authors.

A fine and perfect copy of the first edition of Bunyan's "Pilgrims Progress" brought the record price of £6,800 (\$34,000.00) at a recent sale.

An early copy of Boccaccio printed in 1471 brought the high price of £2,260 (\$11,300.00)

KANSAS STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY INVESTIGATES INDIAN VILLAGE SITE.

Mark D. Zimmerman and Edward Park of White Cloud, Kansas, E. B. Haney of Courtland, Kansas, and Col. Morehouse of Topeka, representing the Kansas State Historical Society, visited the Indian Village site at Guide Rock Wednesday. They had a rainy day for the trip but went over the ground thoroughly. They also visited the rifle pits west of town where Pike fortified his men against any possible attack. The Kansas folks intimate that they will contest Hill's claim to having discovered the village Pike visited.

Abdell says: One of my recent experiences was to buy a large accumulation of old picture nails and screw supports which was left over from the early days. It's safe to say that I bought at least \$1,300.00 worth. It was through an order I received from Mr. Cordell at Dearborn that I got interested in them. To me it is all very amusing.

NUMISMATIC NOTES.—By M. Sorenson.

The Oregon Trail half dollar has been coined and may be added to our already long list of commemorative coins. It is a beautiful and interesting coin, and it commemorates an interesting chapter in the history of the northwest. On the obverse is an old time prairie schooner, drawn by oxen traveling toward the setting sun. Above, "In God We Trust." Below, "Oregon Trail Memorial," separated by five stars from the date below, "1926." The reverse shows a full length figure of an Indian, with blanket and headdress, holding a bow in his right hand. A map of the United States forms the background, upon which the "Oregon Trail" is indicated. The Indian's left hand is upraised as if warning the people of the East of the perils and hardships of the Trail. "United States of America" is separated by the standing figure of the Indian, as well as "Half Dollar" below.

Last summer we had a "rodeo" here in Cedar Rapids, and in the great street parade was an old "covered wagon," drawn by four oxen, and the driver was no less a person than old Ezra Meeker, now 96, the last living person of the 50,000 who in 1852 crossed the plains and Indian country on the way to Oregon. They travelled through the states now known as Iowa, Nebraska, Wyoming, Idaho, Oregon and Washington. On him rests the burden of commemorating the lives of the 50,000. "The whole purpose of my life," he explained, "is to commemorate those 50,000. Oh! in that year 1852, fully 5,000 must have died. The suffering was terrible. It is beyond the power of human language to describe."

In 1924 Mr. Meeker made a trip to Washington, which was productive in results. On May 17, 1926, President Calvin Coolidge signed a bill authorizing the minting of 6,000,000 fifty-cent Oregon Trail Memorial silver coins. The profit from the sale of these coins goes to the Oregon Trail Memorial association, to be used in restoring the trail whose name it bears. The object is set forth fully in the bill authorizing this coinage:

"To authorize the coinage of a 50-cent piece in commemoration of the heroism of the fathers and mothers who traversed the Oregon Trail to the Far West with great hardship, daring, and loss of life, which not only resulted in adding new states to the union but earned a well-deserved and imperishable fame for the pioneers; to honor the twenty thousand dead that lie buried in unknown graves along two thousand miles of that great highway of history; to rescue the various important points along the old trail from oblivion; and to commemorate by suitable monuments, memorial or otherwise, the tragic events associated with that emigration—erecting them either along the trail itself or elsewhere, in localities appropriate for the purpose, including the city of Washington."

Since 1893 our country has taken the lead in issuing commemorative coins, and we now have thirty-five such coins to our credit. They commemorate important events in our national history, admission of states, battle, etc., and the thirty-five coins alone make a fine and valuable collection. With the exception of one, it is safe to say that the market never will get overstocked with these coins as all not sold within a certain time after their issuance are returned to the mint and melted over. Prices are steadily going up. The Panama-Pacific half dollar is now quoted at \$10.00, the 2½ dollar gold of the same issue, \$10.00, the Jefferson gold dollar \$5.00, etc. As the years pass these coins will command still greater interest and go higher in price.

HUMAN INTEREST STORIES—WHAT'S THE USE—By Paul Floyd Cornish.

"You act superstitious about that coin you carry for a pocket piece," said the man in the street, lighting a fresh cigar. "I do not see how you collectors get any pleasure in saving up all kinds of junk like coins, stamps and what not. I want to spend my time on something that will learn me something as I go along."

"Every branch of collecting is educational and can be carried on in a pleasant manner," answered the general collector. "Take this coin now for example, which I have carried as a pocket token for thirty-seven years. It is known as the Sun Dial cent and is one of the first coins issued by the American Colonies after a union of the states was formed. On one side here you will see are thirteen rings linked together, symbolizing the thirteen original colonies. Starting with thirteen states surely has made the United States of America a lucky nation. Inside the rings are the words "States United" and inside further are these words "We Are One." These are the two main ideas that have made us a strong powerful nation.

On the other side of the coin is a sun dial on a pedestal surmounted by a figure of the sun with out spreading rays. At one side is the date 1787.

Only eleven years after the Union was born this coin was designed and issued by our struggling young nation. On the other side of the sun dial is the Latin word "Fugio" meaning in English "I flee." This would teach us that time is fleeting and that we should make the most of it. Under the sun dial is a remarkable motto that has fitted all races and ages since the world began. These are the exact words, "Mind Your Business." If we slip in another little word and make the motto read, "Mind Your Own Business" we have the most important advice ever given to any nation or to any individual as a rule for becoming successful. So you see what we have found on one coin alone is of interest and educational value. Every coin, stamp or any other article has a history connected with it from which we may learn valuable facts," said the general collector. "Whatever develops ones mental powers is bound to be of some aid to long life and happiness."

"I never thought that there could be so many interesting facts connected with collecting things," answered the man of the street. "I have quite a bunch of cigar bands at home that I have been saving for a long time. I guess I had better look them over and see if they can teach me anything."

CATTLE WERE MODELS FOR COINS IN OLD DAYS

Montreal.—In the early days, when a man's flocks and herds were his only possession, they also constituted his money, and when metal coins were introduced many had cattle stamped on them.

The Latin for cattle is "pecus," and it is not a far stretch from this to the word pecuniary, usually associated with money. Cattle is derived from capital, the origin of which is the Latin word "caput," meaning a head, and from early times beasts have been sold at so much a head. The word salary comes from Saline.

OLD GOLD PIECE SOLD.

A guinea gold piece dated 1821, worn for many years by Victor O'Keefe, former county commissioner, and brought by him from Ireland, was sold Tuesday for \$3 76 to Cory Ford, investigator for County Attorney Beal. Beal, administrator of O'Keefe's daughter's estate, sold the piece, allowing a discount from a bank's valuation of \$3.96.

A MONTANA COLLECTION.—By Virginia Nesbit.

The heartless voice of the slave trader, the smell of rum vessels, the clank of swords of "gentlemen" of other days, strange similarities between customs of over a hundred years ago and today, the clash and excitement of the Civil War—all step forth from collections owned by Harry E. Lovejoy of Wolf Point, Montana. Mr. Lovejoy is a photographer by profession who in the course of his travels and through friendships has collected newspapers, coins and Indian relics. His collection of coins and papers is one of the most valuable in the state of Montana.

The collection of coins bears the earliest date. One piece of paper money in this collection bears the date of 1784 and was issued by the Massachusetts Bay colony. A group of one cent pieces is complete from the date of the first piece coined in 1793 until the present year. It is mounted making a case of 132 consecutive coins. Many state bank notes and money issued by private banks at various times in the nation's history are included. Confederate notes, Cuban money issued under the Spanish regime, silver three cent pieces, nickel three cent pieces, and 20 cent pieces are among those in the collection.

The oldest paper in the collection is the *Columbian Sentinel*, published in Boston on June 7, 1794. Although bearing the marks of age this remarkable sheet of paper, published 132 years ago, has stood the ravages of time better than many a sheet printed and published in the last five years. Old style "s's" looke like "ff". The paper was published twice a week on Wednesdays and Saturdays. It is four columns wide with the first two columns on the front page devoted entirely to advertising. The doings of Congress and letters from the political centers of Europe fill considerable space. Notices of humane societies and lodges show that their interests were not far different from ours today. In an obituary notice we read of the death of Anna Maria Rade of Philadelphia whose outstanding claim to virtue was that "as a wife she was respectful."

Five years later we find a copy of the *Independent Chronicle* published on Mondays and Thursday by Thomas Adams at Boston. The front page of this venerable sheet is entirely occupied by the things of Congress with the exception of a column of legal notices. An ornamental sword is advertised for sale along with other articles peculiar to the day.

The first daily in the collection is the *Boston Daily Advertiser*, bearing the date of March 6, 1817 and edited by Nathan Hale. The entire front page is devoted to advertising. Looking a little further we find that the third and fourth pages are also entirely devoted to advertising and the news appears only on page two. The doings of Congress, brief letters from abroad and vital statistics are the limit of the news.

The *City Gazette* of Charleston, South Carolina, bears the date of September 29, 1820. The front page is mainly taken up with advertising and legal notices. Politics and the arrival of vessels in the harbor are the main topics of attention. The immodesty of the waltz is denounced in the editorial columns. The bookkeeper of the *City Gazette* "marked up" his copy for his records in very much the same style as the modern newspaper bookkeeper does, according to the appearance of this copy which has evidently been "marked up." Rewards for runaway slaves and liquor ads are prominent throughout the issue.

Queen Marie of Roumania devised nothing new when she started a "Queen's column" for we read in this paper under a London date line that

the notorious William Cobbett holds the office of secretary to the Queen and that he writes the answers which we see in the papers to the numerous addresses to her."

A copy of the Saturday Evening Post of March 1, 1856, is somewhat different from the present form of the journal that bears that name and as it has a different date of foundation is probably another publication. It is nine columns wide. Its front page contains original poetry, sketches, stories, articles on nature and a novelet. It is described as being "devoted to morality, and literature, foreign and domestic news, agriculture, the commercial interest, science, art and amusement."

To the professional journalist three copies of the New York Herald when James Gordon Bennett was editor are quite as interesting as any papers in the collection. They are dated December 23, 1861, Feb. 10, 1862 and Feb. 11, 1862. The first issue contains the inside "dope" on the Mason-Siddell affair, famous incident of every childhood text book. The issues are mainly taken up with Civil War articles. In his editorial columns Bennett uses eloquent language to flay members of the opposite political faith.

THREE COLLECTIONS ADDED TO COLORADO UNIVERSITY MUSEUM.

The collection of pottery was unearthed by Earl H. Morris, a graduate of the University of Colorado who is known as one of the best authorities on southwestern archaeology. Mr. Morris found the pottery in Mimbres valley, southern New Mexico.

The pottery was made by people of the late prehistoric period, otherwise known as the late Pueblo-Cliff-Dweller Period. These people lived somewhere between five hundred and twenty-five hundred years ago. Many of their fine implements were found along with their pottery.

The pottery is different from the other pottery of the same period found farther north, in that animistic diagrams are painted in the center of most of the bowls. Among the pictures are those of mountain sheep, quails and fishes. Most of these bowls were buried in the graves of those who probably owned them.

Through the parts of the bowls where the pictures are painted, there have been punched large holes. These holes mean that the animals portrayed were killed and buried with the man to whom the bowls belonged so that they will accompany him as his possession in the other world.

The pottery collection contains one hundred and fifty pieces, all of which cannot be readily seen, because of the lack of room in which to display them. There are, however, a good number of representative pieces with the characteristic paintings on them.

Another collection donated to the museum is that of some skulls of fossil mammals unearthed in the White River formation in South Dakota by W. C. Topelman, professor of geology in the university.

Professor Topelman's collection contains fossil skulls of twenty-five or thirty extinct species of mammals. The fossil are still in the crude state, but all superfluous stone will be chiseled out so that the fossil skulls themselves remain.

The third collection is one made by Professor Henderson himself, who spent five weeks this summer on the Hawaiian islands collecting fossil and recent marine material. The collection consists mostly of sea-urchins and shells. The sea-urchins and some of the snail shells are very beautifully colored—Sent by Beals.

PERT PARAGRAPHS FOR BUSY COLLECTORS—By W. Straley.

Thefts of rare books have occurred at such an alarming rate in Paris that the police are keeping an international eye on old book shops and auction rooms. While the Spartans had iron coins, The old Britons ones of tin,
Still Fortuna e'er was fickle And her dimes were always thin

Theodore J. Venn in the *Typographical Journal*.

According to the *New York Evening Post* a prominent collector, who has spent several months in Europe, has returned with quite a number of choice literary items for his collection, which includes original manuscripts, unpublished letters and corrected proofs in the handwriting of Honoré Balzac, Ernest Renan, Lord Tennyson and Robert Browning.

Prof. Bontisth-Osmolovsky, a Russian scientist reports the finding of two human skeletons, belonging to the Palolithic age, in a cave near Simferopol. He estimates them to be 50,000 years old.

Judge E. S. Ricker, formerly of Chadron, Neb., who died in Colorado last May, spent the last twenty-five years of his life in collecting material for a great work on the conflict between the red man and the white on the western plains. He was so thorough in his preliminary studies that death overtook him before he could begin even his first book. Now his executor presents all of this material to the Nebraska State Historical society. It comprises pictures and note books, making up one of the most valuable collections of its kind ever assembled in the plains region.

We have been informed that the Congressional Library, Washington, D. C., has a copy of "Geography Made Easy," by Jedidiah Morse, published in 1784. The author was the father of S. F. B. Morse, the inventor of the telegraph cable.

H. V. Chase, 2941 Asken Ave., Kansas City, Mo., has in his possession a Bible printed by Buck and Daniel, University of Cambridge, 1638. He bought the Bible in Cincinnati about forty years ago at a book auction into which he strolled. The book is 14 by 10 inches in size and is well preserved. He does not know its history and does not remember the price he paid.

Over 500 years ago, the Chinese at the instance of Emperor Yung Lo there was compiled a vocabulary of the Chinese language containing 26 million symbols, which occupied about 900,000 pages. An editorial staff of 28, with more than 2,000 assistants, were occupied in the work, requiring five years to complete. Only three copies were made and one of these existed in Peking until the Boxer trouble in 1900, when it was destroyed.

At last Chief Tony Tommy of the Seminoles, Florida, and 300 of his tribesmen have requested citizenship of the United States. Thus the last of the Indians want to take up the white man's civilization.

The Smithsonian Institute has directed about forty scientific expeditions the past year. Practically the world has been covered with the various expeditions, which encompassed some 50,000 miles. Archaeology and ethnology inspired sixteen of the institution's expeditions; geology, paleontology and mineralogy, ten, and botany, fourteen.

The U. S. Treasury Department, together with the Bureau of Efficiency and paper mills have evolved what is called the "glue" for maldehyde surface sizing treatment for printed currency, which will enable the paper money to last longer—or, in other words, extend its durability.

ANTIQUES.—By T. Cooper.

Did your grandmother ever tell you—or your grandfather, that it doesn't pay to have a lot of old stuff laying around? Mine use to. Grandfather never threw anything away or he never sold anything, and as he had a large, rambling old house built by his father and with additions built on at different times during a century there was ample opportunity for things to accumulate. Every once in a while Grandmother would get mad and clear out some "back room" or other and throw its contents over a ledge near the house—old furniture, household utensils, clothes, papers, all went together. Eventually some of this might find its way back to a spacious old "shed" near the house, if Grandfather happened to pass the pile of antiques and see something he wanted to save.

The "shed" would have delighted the heart of the antique hunter, but it was an eyesore to my grandmother. Manifold and numerous were the objects of uncertain and remote antiquity which it sheltered. As boys we used to play there and for sport occasionally pick out some curious article and take it to ask grandfather what it was, but we could never puzzle him. "That's part of father's Steelyards," or it might be a yoke for carrying water, or a handle mold, oxen yoke, fireplace irons, antiquated tool, or whatnot.

Upstairs in the house there was an attic full of old clothes and trunks, papers, letters, pictures, things given to grandfather and his father by the Indians. I have wondered since whether any of the stamps on the old letters were of any value as they were of civil war vintage and older. We never heard of "stamp collecting."

When we had "home work" to do in school and were puzzled by an arithmetic example grandfather would get out his old books he used when he taught school and advise us to do by the "rule of three" or something as unintelligible that we wouldn't dare to use if it did make the example "come out right" because the teacher wouldn't accept it. Grandmother also had been a school teacher and when she offered her help and advised a different method of working out the example we were between two fires, in a manner of speaking, like a patient between two doctors with different opinions.

DR. CUMMINS HAS RARE ART MUSEUM.

Belvidere, N. J.—The recent acquisition by Dr. George Wyckoff Cummins of this town of a number of authentic Revolutionary documents has brought to light the fact that Dr. Cummins has one of the largest private museums in this country.

Dr. Cummins, who was formerly Professor of Chemistry at Yale, has been a collector of rare books and documents and antiques of all descriptions for many years. In his home here are stored pieces that range in variety from coins of the Roman Empire to articles used by George Washington. The house itself was built in 1833 by George M. Robeson, Secretary of the Navy to the Cabinet of President Grant.

Dr. Cummins has a complete collection of the autographs of all the signers of the Declaration of Independence, an autograph letter of Queen Victoria and a George Washington letter, written after the Battle of Trenton.

The collection is varied and includes a seal of Queen Elizabeth of England, a Queen Ann lowboy, a Bavarian stein of 1675, a spinet of 1792, hundreds of arrowheads found in Warren county and European coins of every century.

—N. Y. Times.

SUCCOR CREEK REGION RICH IN INDIAN CURIOS.—By Jack De France.

On the base and sides of Succor creek, far to the south of Homedale, Idaho, are the upheaval segments of the ancient seabeds of the tertiary period. Traced upon these fragmentary tablets of stone are recorded the first of the hardwood tree life that replaced the tropical stalk and plant life of the carboniferous age.

Leaves of the dwarf birch and willow, and leaves and seeds of the maple, twigs, large leaves with delicate network tracing just as they appeared in life before they became submerged in the damp sediments of the evaporated sea beds when climatic conditions changed the face of this earth. Seas and lakes became dry, and as the arid conditions continued, upheavals of the dry beds took place and were lifted to a much higher elevation.

So, today, on the high hills and buttes one can pass over these ancient sea beds many hundreds of feet above their original level and gather this plant life in stone. Hundreds of thousands of years they have lain exposed to the changing elements but the beautiful tracing of the leaves still remain.

Then another long period passed before the roving red man of the stone age appeared. From the leaf rock he chipped and fashioned, like his pre-historic ancestors, the hoe, spades and diggers—huge implements, 20 inches long and weighing 14 pounds. These were used to till the rich soil in the valley below, where is now located the old Isaac ranch—beautiful and productive—a green oasis among the barren hills whose sides and tops are still strewn with chipped implements on the site of this ancient work shop.

Why these farming implements were not taken to the valley below to till the soil remains a mystery. Possibly it was because the Indians who fashioned the crude tools were driven from their homes by hostile tribes that roamed the valley of the Snake. Now the steel plow of the white man chips and breaks the red man's stone diggers. Gone is the redskin farmer from his valley home, possibly more than a hundred years ago, but he left his tools strewn over the barren upland as evidence that he tried to pursue the peaceful vocation of farming—chipping the rock into plow shares instead of war arrows.

This is indeed an interesting field for the geologist and relic hunter to explore. Many other specimens of interest may be found in the dry stream beds and the foothills. Large beds of agate of many colors, beautiful shades of sparkling crystal, clear agate shells, geodes with diamond-like clusters, and other clear and colored stones. Petrified wood in red and blue shades, caves high up in the rimrock, deep canyons, picturesque waterfalls, interesting rock formations, old trails winding up among the foothills and canyons—a pleasant one day auto trip to make from the Boise Valley.

You are always welcome at the old Isaac ranch by Mr. Valentine, its present owner.

An English coin used since the days of Queen Elizabeth may be withdrawn from circulation. It is the "three penny bit," a very small silver coin. The government is considering the substitution of a larger nickel coin valued at one one-hundredth part of a pound.

"Books are cheering or soothing companions in solitude, illness, affliction. The wealth of both continents would not compensate for the good they impart."—Channing.

THE PHILATELIC WEST

INTERESTING ADDITION.

An attractive exhibit has been added to the Collectors Supply House collections. The exhibit consisted of an entire traveling museum of two large railroad cars full of curious things; which Mr. Decker the proprietor at Callahan, Florida, was fortunate to purchase.

Some of the interesting objects in the new addition were a few hundred of exhibition and museum jars filled with prepared fruits, agricultural, mineralogical and zoological products. A quantity of them come originally from the late Luther Burbank's experimental farm. The monster elephant shark, bulldog, hammerhead, Port Jackson and Angel sharks are well worth mentioning. The large tortoises, one over four feet long are also very interesting for their attractive carapace. Many different kinds of relics from the natives of the South Seas, Alaska and a number of other places are represented in the exhibit. Thousands of sea shells, corals, sea urchins and numerous other items which will interest most any collector, can be seen in the new stock.

The Collectors Supply House has a very interesting private exhibit, of which a part was displayed last November at the Florida state fair. The entomological part of the display found thousands of admirers. Some of the Florida papers stated that his natural history booth proved to be the most popular exhibit at the fair. This could be easily seen by watching the large crowd, every day, admiring the wonders of nature and listening to Mr. Decker's lectures on the subjects. He and his attendants received many pleasing comments from visitors, and managers from some other fairs tried to engage the outfit with lecturer for their next fair. They claim that the exhibit is a highly entertaining, educational and scientific outfit for the general public as well as was the professional and collector.

Collectors coming this season to Florida will be welcome to stop over and visit this establishment. Mr. Decker or his associates will be more than pleased to show interested parties around. No matter if you are a collector of entomological, conchological, ichthological, mammalogical, ornithological, paleontological, mineralogical, philatelic, or art objects you will see something to interest you in the Collectors Supply House collections at Callahan, Florida.

FIND INDIAN GUN.

Relics of bygone days are always interesting. They tell the story of trials and tribulations in a way all their own. For instance, the gun barrel unearthed last week in Massacre canyon near Trenton, Neb., is a relic of that historic battle in 1873 between the Sioux and Pawnee Indians. The gun barrel is exactly like it was when dropped on that eventful day, except for the stock which has decayed, and rust which covers it; cocked and ready, apparently to defend the banner of one or the other of the tribes. Many have looked at the relic now being displayed in The Gazette window at McCook.

A WASS MOLITER FIFTY DOLLAR COIN SELLS FOR \$1,000.

One of Elder's best sales last year was the uncirculated Wass Mollter slug, round design for \$1,000. This was disposed of privately. We guess is the world's record for the round Kellogg slug, the Kellogg family specimen for over \$1700, made some years ago. He predicts the next offering of a Kellogg will see a price well over \$2,000. Thus it goes. All really choice and rare things in gold don't decrease in price, but increase. They seem to average well over the traditional "6%" per year.—Collector Notes.

HASTINGS MUSEUM, HASTINGS, NEB.

The Brooking bird exhibit already contains about 2,000 mounted birds in the floor cases. Yet it represents only about two-thirds of Mr. Brooking's collection!

A. T. Hill's Indian room is packed with Indian relics and entries of historical value and interest.

Mr. Hill is displaying much of the Pawnee Indian material unearthed at his farm near Red Cloud, but the display is far from being restricted to this. Mr. Hill has drawn from the accumulation of a lifetime of collecting and studying.

In the halls and stairway are more than 300 guns which Mr. Hill has collected, guns dating from colonial days to the present. The Hill exhibit is rich in arrow heads, beadwork and the handicraft of the Indian. It is a handicraft rapidly passing into the antique for the Indian is rapidly modernizing and the art of his fathers is fast becoming lost to him.

In the Hill collection are Spanish saddle and spurs, and in divers ways the exhibit speaks the picturesque story of American life.

Practically everything in the museum is plainly labeled so that the visitor knows exactly what he is examining. Mr. Brooking's collection has more than 4,000 labels.

This Stimulates Interest.

Upon visiting the museum one finds that his interest is aroused along new lines, lines he did not know he would be interested in. That is one of the values of the museum—it will widen interest and educate while it entertains.

Just recently a man visited the museum to see the Brooking birds. Birds was all he had in mind, and he freely said that while he could easily understand why a man would collect birds, he didn't understand why anyone would collect Indian relics.

"Why when I was a boy I used to plow those things up by the bushel," he said, referring to the arrow heads in the Indian collection.

"Then you are from Indiana," Mr. Hill remarked.

That puzzled the visitor. "Yes," he said slowly, "I'm from Indiana, but how did you know it?" Mr. Hill explained that he knew that because he happened to know that that is the place where there are many arrow heads. The incident aroused the man's curiosity about Indian relics, as he realized what their interpretation can lead to.

CONNECTICUT MAN HOLDS \$30 U. S. BILL PUT OUT IN 1772

New Britain, Conn.—A bona fide \$30 bill is held by Bernard L. Hoppe of this city. Local banking houses pronounce it authentic, and Hoppe has refused many times its face value.

The note, dated September 26, 1778, and signed by "A. Lawrence, Secretary of the United States Treasury," is numbered 217305. It is about one-fourth the size of a modern dollar bill. Bankers say it is still legal tender.

Our attention has been called to a discrepancy in the design of the Norse-American stamps that is in the nature of a fault in handling the United States shield in its heraldic aspect. In the Norse-American stamps, the American shield is on the observer's right while on the Ericsson commemorative, it is on his left, as it should be. Mr. Henry Foster, San Francisco, is the discoverer of this deviation from the line of custom.—Mekeels.

THE SALE OF RARE COLONIAL AMERICAN COINS.

Some remarkable prices were paid in London for early Colonial American coins, the property of Mr. E. J. French of St. Ann's, Donnybrook, Co. Dublin. They were nearly all fine examples of excessively rare coins, issued in Massachusetts in 1652, the rarest of all being an unpublished and little known "Willow Tree" threepence, for which Mr. Seaby, the Oxford street dealer, gave £505, the only other example known occurred in a sale in New York a few years since. A "Willow Tree" sixpence, of the same colony, was bought for £165 by a United States dealer. An "Oak Tree" shilling brought £50 (Curtis); a "Pine Tree" shilling—£50; another with a cut quarter dollar for West Indies—£50; another and a twopence, 1662—£52. A Maryland, Lord Baltimore sixpence, no date—£16; and Kentucky, halfpenny, 1796, proof in silver, "British Settlement Kentucky"—£12. An Isle of Man, proof Douglas Bank, five-shilling token, 1811, brought £30 (Seaby).

Among the remainder of the late Fleet-Surgeon A. E. Weighman's collection of the English copper coinage, after his magnificent gift to the British Museum, were: Charles II. pattern farthing, 1665, in gold—£18 10s.; William and Mary pattern halfpenny, busts with long hair—£15 10s.; Anne pattern farthing, in copper, 1713—£19 10s. All these were bought by Messrs. Baldwin & Sons, who also gave £15 10s. for a Worcester Porcelain Company shilling token in porcelain, circa 1760, the property of the late Miss L. Friswell. The total amounted to £1,620.

SELLS OLD SAFE AS JUNK, BUYER FINDS IT FULL OF WEALTH.

A farmer was cleaning out a house near historic Middletown, N. J. A neighbor, come to get acquainted, watched him toil among the rubbish of many years.

"Now, look at this," the disgusted owner exclaimed, as he came upon a rusty iron safe. "What am I goin' to do with this gol darn thing?"

"There are the Hyers in Keyport," volunteered the neighbor. They are blacksmiths and maybe they'll give you a couple of dollars for it as junk."

The Hyer brothers did purchase it, carted it to their shop in South Keyport, forced the rusty old door and—

Neatly arranged in boxes was a fortune. Several were filled with rare old coins, and small bags contained jewelry and stones of odd description. There was also a large collection of old stamps, any one of which may be worth thousands of dollars, not to mention stocks, bonds and checks.

The contents are roughly estimated to be worth at least \$75,000, but an appraiser from New York has been sent for.—N. Y. World, sent by Abels.

RARE GEMS TO SMITHSONIAN.

Washington.—With the simple statement that it had been presented the "finest collection of minerals in the world," the Smithsonian Institution disclosed today that the famous Roebling gems had come into its possession.

The collection, assembled from the ends of the world, was the property of Col. Washington A. Roebling, builder of Brooklyn bridge. With an endowment of \$150,000 it has been presented the institution by the engineer's son, John A. Roebling.

A wine-colored topaz from Brazil, a black opal from Nevada, the largest known, and a 310-carat peridot from the Island of St. John in the Red Sea, a stone which legend says once adorned the image of a saint, are among the rarities. Another rarity is a 64-carat black diamond from Africa.

RARE INDIAN MEDAL FOUND.

One of the rarest of early Indian medals presented to various chiefs to cement their friendship and good-will was recently dug up near an abandoned sawmill near Savannah, Ga., and has come into the possession of Thomas L. Elder, the numismatist of 9 East Thirty-fifth street.

The medal is of silver, oblong in shape, about five inches long and four inches wide. It bears the date 1789, and is said to have been presented by George Washington during the first year of his presidency to some prominent unknown chieftain. Notwithstanding the long time it had been in the earth, it is in excellent condition and the engraved figures are very clear.

On the obverse is a figure of an Indian chief who has just dropped his tomahawk and is grasping the peace pipe offered by the hand of Columbia, dressed as Pallas, helmeted and armed with a sword. Behind Columbia is a figure of a plow, and below is a human head and spear. Above the figures is the inscription, "G. Washington, President."

The reverse shows a large American eagle in heraldic style. Above the eagle are thirteen stars and over them the words "United States of America." The medal has a border in raised relief and a silver ring at the top. Very few copies of this early Indian medal type are known and it is valued by collectors at several hundred dollars.—N. Y. Times.

GOVERNMENT PAYS NEWSDEALER \$50,000 FOR LINCOLN COLLECTION.

A government check for \$50,000 has been handed to Mr. Osborne S. Oldroyd, who was running a newsstand in Vernon, Ohio, during Lincoln's first campaign for the presidency. The check was in payment for hundreds of relics of Abraham Lincoln, which Mr. Oldroyd has been collecting ever since that day when he received a campaign booklet telling of Lincoln's rise from poverty. He read it through and decided then and there that Lincoln was destined to become a great man, and he carefully kept everything he could obtain regarding him. The booklet was the nucleus of a collection which for years has been kept in the house where Lincoln died on Tenth Street, Washington.

Mr. Oldroyd, who served in the Union army, has been buying relics here and there, spending a great deal of his private means, and it was a happy moment for him when the government finally bought his collection. For many years he had been trying to get the government to buy it, and turned down numerous private offers, including one from Henry Ford.—Journal News.

In New York on November 26 the collection of Theodore Sedgwick of Boston was sold. This was an early American collection made some fifty years back and forgotten in a closet for many years. The high price paid for a Gwinnett document, \$14,000, in Philadelphia, caused the collection to be brought out, and a very fine Gwinnett document was found in it. This brought the remarkable price of \$28,500, the highest price ever paid for an autograph letter or document. Pretty much all the other prices paid at this sale seem to me extremely high, but prices advance at every sale, so I must be wrong. The autograph collection left by the late James Gordon Bennett, 2nd, proprietor of the New York Herald, was sold on November 23.

One of the rarest books by John Bunyan, a first edition copy of his "Book for Boys and Girls" was bought by a Joe Maggs, a London collector for about \$16,500.

HOOVER'S BARGAINS

10 U. S. ½c Pieces, holed or otherwise mutilated; lot	\$.60	bronze, from a fine little 4-shot Pistol; fine condition	4.50
10 Canada One Cent Pieces, all different dates; lot .....	.50	1 nice old double bbl. percussion Pistol, in good working order, round bbls.	3.50
10 Coins, Medals and Medalettes, nice lot .....	.50	1 Small Brass Barrel Cannon, shape bbl. percussion single shot Pistol, length 6 in. in good condition	4.00
1 Shield Shape Badge with Barpin McKinley .....	.15	One 22-cal. Single Shot Saloon or target Pistol, length 14 in., carved stock, oct. bbl., good	3.50
1 small Medalette of Columbus, 1492-1892, very fine .....	.25	Old percussion Pistol, length 9½ in., checkered grips, some part missing, but good decorator	2.00
1 McKinley Campaign Badge with Buckeye attached .....	.25	One large 14 in. Remington percussion 6 shot 44 cal. Pistol; won't revolve, otherwise good..	4.00
10 Coins, 1 Checks, 1 Medalette; lot .....	.35	3 Nice Indian Stone or Granite Celts, lot	1.00
1 Abraham Lincoln Medalette, 1909 .....	.15	1 Very Fine Burning or Cooking Stone, about 5 inches in dia., fitted one each side	1.00
5 Medalettes, suitable for watch fobs, lot .....	.40	1 Old Tuning Fork and 1 old Bleeding Lance; lot .....	.50
1 K. O. T. M. Gold Plated Charm, good .....	.25	5 old English Half Pennies, before 1800; each .....	.15
1 Krugger 6 Pence, rare .....	.35	3 old English Pennies; lot .....	.20
1 Bank of Upper Canada 1857 Token .....	.10	Memorial Medal, 1776-1876, uncirculated .....	.25
4 Old Coat Buttons, Goodyear pat. 1851; lot .....	.25	1 curious Old Tool used by the early Shoemakers to measure the foot full length, when open 17 in. has brass hinge; a bargain	75
1 Old Coin Louis XV, 2 Sous, 1789, rare .....	.15	15 old Tools used by the early Shoemakers to make shoes; a very interesting lot	1.50
1 George 3rd English Half Penny, 1799 .....	.15	Above lot is mostly made of wood.	
1 Large Bronze Medal, 13 in. New York Crystal Palace, date 1853, good and rare .....	.65	1 old Copper Plate Map, size 29x24 published 1690 ....	.50
Beautiful Medal ½ Dollar, size of G. Washington; reverse, this medal struck by T. L. Elder in interest of a more artistic design for the U. S., date 1916 .....	.50	One Flint Hoe, length 7½ in. in tan color	1.00
3 Old Cross Stich Book Marks, the lot .....	.25	One Flint Spade, length 7 in. ....	.75
25 old Canceled Checks, date 1871 to 1872, each has 2c revenue stamp on Washington portrait; lot	1.09	One Fine Flint Scraper, partly polished 1 3-4 in. long .....	.60
Nice old Daguerrotype, enclosed in leather covered case .....	.50	One Nice Granite Celt, hickory, Kentucky .....	.50
Old First Aid Kit as furnished during Spanish war .....	.50	100 Small Notched Flint Scrapers, all you want, each .....	.05
1 German Soldier's Belt Buckle, worked with .....	.50	10 Large Flint Scrapers, each ....	.15
Dozen old Uniform Buttons, mostly brass .....	.25	Nice Flint Drills, each .....	.35
1 Old Powder Flask, made of zinc .....	.50	Small Flint Drills, all you want, each .....	.20
Revolver, length 7 in., 44 cal., name S. & W. Angle Cylinder and Frame, nicely ornamented, a showy piece, in working order rare, fine	3.00	Flint Spears, 3 in. Long or over, each .....	.25
1 old Remington Army Pistol, length 14 in., altered to shoot 44 cal. center fire cartridges, in good condition	5.00	Flint Spears, less than 3 in. long each .....	.15
1 Large 44 cal. Percussion Pistol, 6 shot, length 11½ in., Keres pat.; one of the favorites of Confederates during civil war; a fine looking pistol, but out of order, but sure a rare one at the bargain price of	4.50	One lot of Grooved Stone War Club Heads, each .....	.40
1 Sharps 4-shot 22 cal. sliding bbl.		One lot of Granite and Slate Celts, per dozen	3.00
		No less than one dozen celts at above price.	
		One lot of 3,000 Defective Arrows, per 100	1.25
		Defective Spears, all you want, per dozen .....	.60
		Triangular Flint War Points, very fine, each .....	.10

Send stamp for outlines of Fine Large Stone Axes and other Stone Implements and fine Stone Relics. I have thousands of fine pieces all genuine, mostly Ohio Specimens; none to exchange for other goods, as exchanges take too much time, but will buy anything except postage Stamps; so write what you have to sell and state your price in first letter and if price is right I will buy anything

HOOVER'S CURIO SHOP

FOR SALE

1 very fine War Clubs from natives of Br. New Guiana, very curious weapons, each	\$ 7.50
3 fine War Clubs, similar as above and same locality, each	6.00
3 interesting War Clubs from same locality, each	5.00
1 extra fine, interesting War Club from same locality, a very treacherous weapon	15.00
1 Bone Weapon, from South Seas..	3.00
1 Harpoon Head, very fine	7.50
1 Seal Harpoon from Alaskan Indians, with over 104 feet of line made out of sealskin	20.00
1 Halibut hook with idol carved in front, very fine, from Alaskan Indians	15.00
1 large Wooden Fish Hook from South Sea Islands, very curious..	3.00
1 Fish Hook from the South Seas, made out of mother of pearl	3.00
1 large Ice Dipper from the Alaskan Indians, over 56 inches long, very ingeniously made tool	15.00
1 wooden Soup Ladle from the Philippines	2.00
1 wooden large Fancy Comb from the Philippines	2.50
All above relics are attractive specimens for advanced collectors, and of course for beginners as well.	
Curious Natural History Specimens	
Fungia patella (mushroom coral) from Zanzibar, Africa	2.00
Manichna areolata (rose coral) ....	.30
Seafeather from West Indies .....	.50
Gorgonia (Sea fan) West Indies ..	.35
Mellita tesselata (keyhole urchin) ..	.15
Toxoneus, variegatus (sea urchin) ..	.25
Echin reticulatus (starfish) .....	.15
Egg Case of Conch, very interesting	.25
L. polyphemus (horse foot crab) ..	.40
Gelasimus vocans (fiddler) .....	.15
Sea bean, brown, banded (Lucky Bean) .....	.10
Sea bean, brown, banded, 10 for ..	.50
Skate Egg (mermaid's pillow) ....	.10
Mounted Alligator	2.00
Collection of Shells, No. 1	1.00
No. 2, Collection of Shells	5.00
No. 3, Collection of Shells	10.00

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If interested in Butterflies, or all kind of other Entomological Material, Fossils, Minerals, Stamps, Collectors Accessories, etc., please write.

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We Buy and sell old and new books of all kinds. Our specialty is to hunt books, and supply want lists for students, teachers, dealers, book collectors, etc. We have a collection of several thousand books that we have been accumulating for over thirty years. We are co-operating with over 300 dealers in all parts of the world to obtain books wanted by patrons, not in stock or out of print. Sell the old books you do not need and buy new books that you can use.—Harry R. Marlow, 201 East Franklin St., Warren, O.

Small Collection Fine Sea Shells from coast of Africa and Cuba for fine, large Indian Arrows or Slate Ornaments. Have about 200.—Ed C. Fritch, Prospect, Ohio

1 Vol. Stone Ornaments of American Indians by Moorehead, for Oregon or Washington Gem Points of green agate or goldstone. Will pay \$25 per hundred, cash.—W. F. Layland, 114 N. Caddo St., Cleburne, Texas.

For Sale. Billfish, 30 inches long, mounted on panel to hang on wall. Write for price.—Neil Marshall, Cass City, Michigan.

Mohawk and Sioux full beaded watch fobs, very pretty and strongly made for hardest wear, \$1.00 each, prepaid. Cash with order. Beadwork from all tribes. H. Allard, Drawer N., Camillus, N. Y.

Coins. If you need any commemorative coins let me hear from you. I have all kinds of U. S. coins in stock.—George Patten, Smithtown Branch, New York.

Antiquated Paper Money Wanted, all kinds in quantity. Also Jenny Lind items, Western Books and Curios. Coin & Stamp Exchange, 308 So. 15th St., Omaha Neb.

Wanted—To trade old guns and pistols for small Indian arrow heads.—A. T. Hill, Hastings, Neb.

Pestles, Rubbing and Pit Stones 50c each. Small Hoes \$1.00 each. Scrapers 20c each.—H. Daniel, box 221, Lamar, Ark.

For Sale: Sioux Indian Pipes, War Clubs, Saddles, Horsehair Bridles and Elkhorn Scrapers. These are genuine old relics and not made to sell tourists.—W. H. Over, 125 Harvard St., Vermillion, So. Dak.

Old Coins and paper money bought. Send for my buying list of coins for 17c.—H. A. Brand, 174 Woolper Ave., Cincinnati, O.

Cash paid for large spears, bird stones, boat stones, amulets and large axes, etc.—Albin A. Elchert, New Riegel, Ohio.

Liberia View Cards. About September 15 we will be able to supply 12 different views stamped viewside for \$1.00.—Plainfield Stamp Company, Plainfield, New Jersey.

Wanted. Indian relics, minerals fossils, weapons of all kinds and curios. Dealers send lists with best discounts.—Geo. A. Strouss, West Alexander, Pa.

SPECIAL

For a Short Time Only

5 diff. dates U. S. ½ cents, rare.....	\$1.25
5 diff. dates large cents, v. scarce	.35
2 diff. dates, 3c silver, v. scarce	.35
Set of Fractional Currency, 5, 10, 25 and 50c notes, v. fine and v. scarce, the set	1.65
Dominica, 1877, 1 centavo, unc., brass	.10
Russia, 1913, ½ and 1 kopek, unc., sea set	.15
1722 Louisiana cent, v. good, rare	1.00
Mexico, 1917-19-20, 50 centavos, ex. fine, each	.45
Kwang Lung, 1 mace-4-4 cauda-reens, ex. fine, each	.25
100 diff. foreign copper and nickel coins	2.00
10 diff. foreign nickel coins	.28
Mexico 1924 peso, unc. br.	.85
Java, 1790, ½ and 1 doitt, the set	.20
10 diff. foreign silver, dime size	1.10
10 diff. hard time tokens, v. scarce	1.35
10 diff. Civil War tokens	.90
5 diff. ½ dimes, bust, v. scarce	1.25
5 diff. ½ dimes, Liberty seated	.65
U. S. 2c bronze, first coin with In God We Trust, of my selection	.08
5 diff. foreign coins and 40 page selling list	.15

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Old Medical Brass Scales, used 100 years ago	\$2.00
Old Bootjack, shape of a beetle with horns	2.50
Lady's Hand Bag, stamped in colors, about 100 years old	2.00
Old Deeds, written 1798 to 1839, each	.35
Land Grant, written and signed by Andrew Jackson	2.50
2 Confederate Swords, fine \$20 and United States Conscription Law of 1863	1.00
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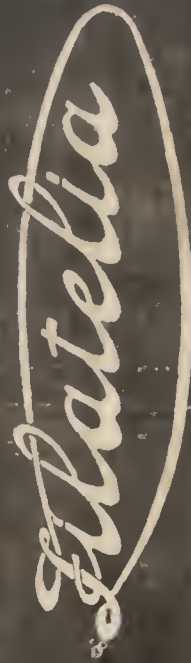
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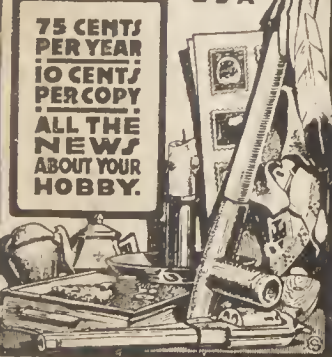
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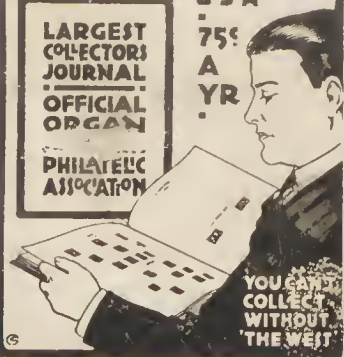
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A number of the Early U. S. Pioneers are listed and priced, all of the Contract Airmail Routes are shown complete (with many of the point to point items also priced separately) and practically all of the First Day U. S. Postage Covers are offered.

This is not only a price list but a reference work no collector should be without, especially as it's postfree.
GET YOUR COPY TODAY.

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Set 15 Macambique Co. 10c; 25 diff. Asia 10c; 25 diff. Bulgaria and Thrace 10c; 25 diff. Switzerland 8c; 50 diff. Brit. Col. 12c; 50 diff. Port. Col. 13c.

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Your Attic May be Your Treasure House.

Stored away in somebody's attic are a lot of old letters, books and relics that have not seen the light of a day for twenty or thirty years, that will bring the finder many dollars for their trouble.

Up in your attic may be an old Hair Trunk, Desk, Chest or Box that will yield stamps of value on the old letters or old books. Some people burn them at house-cleaning time or sell them to the junkman for a few cents for old paper, but the thrifty person will communicate with West X Want Ads and turn them into real money. To stop advertising to save money is like stopping the clock to save time.

Minerals, Stamps, Coins, Books. Have many specimens to trade.—Earle H. Potter, 95 Hillendale St., Rochester, N. Y.

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Pro. you are a dealer by writing on your stationery or giving wholesaler's name, with whom you are buying from and we will send you free, for a year. The Philatelic Wholesaler. This is not run by a wholesaler—it is published for and by the interest of the stamp trade.

Wholesalers Send for your sample copy if you are not already receiving it and you will find the greatest advertising medium for dealers in the whole world.

Mr. Collector. If you intend to start dealing, write to us before you lay in a large stock. We will give you ideas and suggestions and will help you in whatever way possible.

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Room 203
6217 Forest Ave., Kansas City, Mo.

NEWFOUNDLAND 'BARGAINS



Scott	Per 100	1909
194 1c, 1911	\$.15	
105 2c, 1911	\$.15	
115 1c, 1918	\$.20	
116 2c, 1918	\$.30	
117 3c, 1918	\$.15	\$1.20
118 4c, 1918	2.00	
119 5c, 1918	1.50	
131 1c, 1923	\$.25	2.00
132 2c, 1923	\$.25	
133 3c, 1923	\$.20	1.70

10 var. mixed (fine) 1909 for \$2.50.
20 each of above 10 var. for \$1.00

REV. E. A. BUTLER

ST. GEORGES, NEWFOUNDLAND

Let Me Get you that rare, scarce or unusual item you want for your collection. Ralph Hadley, Lowry City Missouri.

Will Exchange Stamps with foreign collectors. Clark Richards, Clyde, Ohio.

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We Give 2,000 European for 1000 Overseas Stamps. Sold 10,000 packets monthly. Sample Collection \$1.—Arns & Schrott, Palmten Str., 7, Dusseldorf, Germany. Member A. P. S. \$101.

Mint, Single or Block Sets Second Pa. American Postal Congress (Mexico) Mint U. S. Coils, 390, 410, 442. Ret. 11 or wholesale. All U. S. and Covers. Bargains.

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100 different for 22c; 200 different for 54c. Select 1 and 2c each approval. Good reference necessary.

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With and Without Stamps

Before 1870; send a few on approval stating lowest price. Satisfactory references. Prompt returns. Anything about Mormons, Wells Fargo Express, Far West, Confederates, Paper Money.

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HOUSECLEANING.

Bargain prices on some old stock. Prices to sell. U. S. Mixtures: 1-60 each to the \$1 mixture. Stamps 1-60 each before 1909.

Mixture No. 1, 1-42 catalog value \$1.00 Mixture No. 2, about 1-9 cat. value \$1.00

Sample mixture at great value. Reductions on larger amounts. Fine mixture, etc. Would like to exchange with foreign countries. Also like to exchange for packets of 5,000-10,000 varieties.

30 diff. unusual COINS 5c; some 15c each.

12 diff. U. S. A. BILLS 75c; some 100c each.

Bargains in old foreign stock. 1909-1900. Some are very nice. See our show. 1000 45c great used lot.

GERALD W. CROZIER

Stamps for Collectors. Look up New.

50 U. S. PRECANCELS 25c

ALL DIFF. 10 DIFF. CITIES Ask for my 20c. Escrow U. S. A. 1909-1900

F. T. RUDOLPH

Box 341 Clarkdale Arizona

Will Exchange 1000 U. S. A. 1909-1900 127, 81 000 for 1000 U. S. A. 1909-1900

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1000 U. S. A. 1909-1900 127, 81 000 for 1000 U. S. A. 1909-1900

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STAMPS FOR SALE

If you want the stamps of Austria, Germany, Bavaria, Hungary, Bosnia, Danzig, Memel, Esthonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Russia, Poland, Upper Silesia, Jugo Slavia, Czech, Slovakia, Montenegro, Bulgaria, Roumania, etc., please ask for my net or 60% approvals.

Do you collect U. S. A. Precancels?

I have a fine lot of medium priced stamps ready for approval service.

A premium is given with every approval sent out. Reference please.

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Emerald, Nebraska

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10 Australia, K. G.	10c	10 New Zealand	5c
25 Belgium	10c	20 Great Britain	5c
10 Ceylon	8c	10 Siam	10c
10 Brazil	5c	10 Poland	5c
10 Cuba	5c	5 NewHebrides	10c
6 Domina Republic	5c	7 Malay	5c
100 Hungary	25c	7 Straits	5c
1 Canada	10c	22 French Colonies	15c
15 U. S.	10c	8 Victoria	5c
6 Cam-roons	8c	6 South Australia	5c
15 Nederland	10c	6 Queensland	5c
France	10c	15 Switzerland	5c
Italy	10c	Stock Transfer Stamp, perf. 2c to \$2;	
100 Austria	20c	15c per 100; Precancelled as they are	
		½c to 50c; 20c per 100.	

W. H. LECKIE

4512 NORTH RACINE AVE.

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS,, U. S. A.

NEW ZEALANDS

10 100

Kb. 1, 1½, 1½, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8	
9, 1½ (8)	\$0.50 \$4.50
Official ½, 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 1½ (7) 0.85	8.00
Life Insurance ½, 1, 1½, 2, 3, (5) 0.85	8.00
5 different N. ZS.	1.00 9.50
5 different N. ZS.45 4.00

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Cash With Order.

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Your used patriotic Envelopes of Civil or Spanish wars. I pay cash for them and for 14c precancels that I can use.

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A. P. S., S. P. A., P. S. S.

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35 Scott's varieties \$1.00; 25 for 25c; 15 for 10c; 80 for \$10.00. Illustrated catalogue 10c.

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1000 Mixed Stamps	25c
75 var. U. S.	15c
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One lot 40 Entires, ea. diff. (Foreign Env. Stamps.) New	\$.66
50 World War time Censored Covers. 35 diff. countries, 100 obsolete Stamps, 1 to 5 on each. Each with diff. U. S. censor number. Rare lot	12.00
100 Foreign Covers, 150 or more var. of Stamps, mostly obsolete, some ea. 10 to 20c. some nice postmarks not ordinary, tho some are	1.50
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121 Old Bank Checks with Rev. Stamps, used 1873 and all years, stamped; diff. Banks and many diff. stamps60
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FIVE AND TEN CENT

Packets of quality. Send for price list For approvals, send references

BOXFORD STAMP CO.

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I Want to Buy Censored War Covers of all countries. Send what you have with net cash price. Returns same day. I also buy Airmail.—Arthur Barger, 839 Beacon St., Boston, Mass.

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RICHMOND HILL, NEW YORK CITY

Send for Our Catalogues as below.

U. S. & Foreign Postage Stamps, 16 pages.
U. S. Coins and Paper Money, 16 pages.
Foreign Copper & Nickel Coins, 32 pages.
Hard Times Tokens of 1837, 16 pages.
Premium Catalogue U. S. Coins, 16 pages.
These 5 Catalogues 10c Each, 5 for 40c.

Bargains for Coin Collectors.

Sent by insured mail on receipt of price. No orders under \$1 received. No duplicates in this column.

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6 Gold Dollars, 1849 to 1854, small \$20.00
10 Gold Dollars, 1854 to 1889, large 30.00
4 Gold Dollars, both sizes 11.00
10 Quar. Eagles, head of Liberty 40.00
Set of 4 souvenir ½ and ¼ California 1.75

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Dollar, 1795, flowing hair \$6.00
Dollar, 1840, 41, 42, 43, 44, 46, 49 each 2.00
Dollar, 1845, 47, 50, 53, 59 each.. 3.00
Dollar, 1869, 71, 72, 79, each 2.00
Dollar Proofs in the 80's, each ... 2.00
Trade Dollars, 1876, 77, 78, each ... 1.50
Trade Dollars, 1878, 79, 30, 81, 82, all proofs 2.00
Half Dollars, 1807 and 1808, each ... 1.00
Half Dollar, Exposition, uncirc. Lincoln, Concord, Pilgrim 1920 and 21, Maine, Bennington, Oregon Trail, Stone Mountain, Monroe, ea. 1.15
Other varieties at the lowest market price.

10 old Quar. Dollars prior to 1900 4.00
20c piece, 1875, S mint, uncirc. .. 1.00
20 old Dimes prior to 1900 4.00
20 old Half Dimes prior to 1870.. 2.50
10 old 3c Silver, with 1851 O mint 2.00

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15 5c nickel, last century, uncirc... \$3.50
15 3c nickel, last century, uncirc. .. 3.00
10 3c nickel, fine75
8 2c bronze, fine60
50 Copper Cents, including 1798.. 4.00
10 Copper Half Cents 2.50
8 Nickel Cents, 1857 to 1864, fine.. .60
Set of 65 Cents, 1857 to 1921, mostly uncirc. 6.00
17 Cents, S mint from 1909 to 1925 bright 1.75
14 Cents, D mint, from 1911 to 1926 bright 1.60
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20 1837 Jackson, some rare 3.00
5 Colonial Coins, Conn., N. J. etc. 1.00
20 civil war Tokens 1.00
20 civil war Envelopes, patriotic designs 1.00
10 Medals, copper, tin, etc50
20 Medals, copper, large 2.00
10 English Tokens, before 1800 .. 1.00
20 South American Coins 1.00
20 English Colonial Coins 1.00
10 Store Cards, copper, brass, etc.. 1.00

25c Sets of Foreign Coins

Argentina 5, Austria 8, Belgium 5, Brazil 5, Buenos Ayres 3, No. Borneo 2,

Brit. Guiana 2, Bulgaria 3, Canada 10, Ceylon 5, Chili 3, Congo 4, China 6, Colombia 6, Denmark 7, Dan. W. 1, 2, Dom. Rep. 4, Egypt 3, Finland 5, Fr. Col. 3, Germany 12, Ger. E. Africa 3, Gr. Brit. 10, Greece 5, Guatemala 4, Hayti 4, Hungary 6, India 6, Italy 19, Jamaica 4, Japan 8, Mexico 7, New Brunswick 4, Nova Scotia 5, Netherlands 7, Prid. I. 3, Portugal 4, Peru 3, Russia 6, Roumania 4, Servia 3, Straits 3, St. of Jersey 3, Swiss 8, Spain 3, Sweden 8, Tunis 3, Turkey 8, Uruguay 3, Venezuela 3.

Stamps at Wholesale.

The following lots are old stock tied up in bundles of 100 of a kind, and read as follows:

Argentine 5-12 \$2; means 500 Argentine stamps, 5 varieties, priced by Scott at 12c per set of 5, \$12, which we set for \$2.

United States 25-50, \$5. That's 250 stamps, 25 varieties, catalogued at \$50 for \$5.

Argentine 5-12, \$2; Brazil 4-8, \$1.50; Brit. Guiana 6-15, \$2.50; Ceylon 2-7, \$1.50; Columbia 2-7, \$1.50; China 6-16, \$2; Costa Rica 3-7, \$1.50; Cuba 10-24, \$2.50; Guatemala 4-9, \$2; Hayti 2-15, \$2.50; Jamaica 4-18, \$2; Japan 7-14, \$1.50; Mexico 14-37, \$5.50; Newfoundland 3-6 \$1.50; New South Wales 2-1, \$1; New Zealand 2-4, \$1; Nicaragua 4-10, \$2; Peru 8-20, \$3; Philippines 2-5, \$1; Queensland 2-4, \$1; Roumania 4-8, \$1.50; Russia 2-4, \$1; Salvador 2-5, \$1; Sweden 3-6, \$1; Uruguay 2-7, \$1; Venezuela 4-10, \$1.50; West Australia 2-4, \$1.

The above lot comprises 142 different stamps, 100 of each, and catalogues at \$350, which at our prices amount to \$55, or the entire lot for \$59, being one-seventh of catalogue. Just the thing for approval books. These stamps were tied up years ago and have not been looked over for rarities of type or postmark.

Cheap Sets of Stamps

No orders received for less than one dollar.

These read for 1920 (Pilgrims) 3 new 28-15, means 3 unused catalogued at 28c for 15c.

U. S. 1917, imperf. 3 new 16-10; Panama Pacific 5-14-20; Parcel Post 6-21-10; Columbian 1893, 4-15-8; 1890 9-27-15; Parcel Post complete 12-203-89; Special Delivery 4-50-20; 1912 8-31-15; South America 50-140-30; Argentina 14-38-15; Brazil 7-15-8; Brit. Guiana 8-45-20; Chili 16-38-15, Ceylon 9-34-15; Colombia 7-26-12; China 15-36-12; Costa Rica 11-30-15; Cuba 17-44-20; Dom. Rep. 11-55-20; Ecuador 12-23-10; Guatemala 11-36-20; Hayti 9-52-20; Honduras 5-26-12; Jamaica 10-41-15; Japan 12-40-15; Mexico 28-92-35; Newfoundland 7-28-12; Nicaragua 12-34-12; Peru 20-62-25; Trinidad 9-41-20; Venezuela 13-34-12.

STAMP & COIN EXCHANGE. Richmond Hill, New York City

THE DEAN OF AMERICAN PHILATELY.

On another page will be seen a page ad of William P. Brown. See our next number. He is now 84 years of age and commenced the stamp business in its incipency in New York City in 1860, when the highest price for any stamp was a dollar. He was dealing in coins but the boys talked him into the stamp trade as well.

His name now runs under the title of the Stamp and Coin Exchange and his name will be seen in another part of this magazine, where it has been for many years, showing his appreciation of this up-to-date Journal.

In 1873 he recollects selling to Count Ferrary of Paris two Hawaiian 2-centancy border stamps at \$25 each, which was more than he could get for them in this country, which were sold in the Ferrary collection a few years ago at about \$20,000 each.

He no longer keeps a store, but having accumulated a good stock, has retired to his residence in Richmond Hill, a suburb of New York City of about 10,000 inhabitants, where he does business by mail, having changed his place of business thirty times and sold out four times.

During the civil war a young man came to him from England and said he had been looking for a job but could not find any and was out of money and wanted to sell his stamp collection, which Mr. Brown bought for \$10. A few days later he was still without a position and thought he would have to join the army to which Mr. Brown saw no objection but said it was a pity for him to join for that reason. So he offered to set him up in the stamp business and sell him \$100 worth of stamps on credit. That young man was Walter Scott so widely known in Philately. When Mr. Brown was buried in the 90's in the old World building, Mr. Scott returned the compliment by offering to lend him \$1,000 to start anew.

Mr. Brown remembers all the old names such as Taylor, Freeman, Taylor, and Durbin in the stamp business and Cogswell, Curtis, Pezoldine and Moore in the coin business, but is a stranger to many of the new names which now fill the pages of the Philatelic West.

WALLACE'S BUMPER LIST.

From Wallace Bros. we have a big new Price List dated 1927. This catalogue is 100 pages, and contains splendid offers of stamps singly, per dozen, hundred and thousand, as well as special offers of parcels, packets and so on. Although one appreciates that Wallace Bros. do a big business, the photographic in this catalogue will be an eye-opener to many who do not yet appreciate the ramifications of the larger firms in the trade. An dealer should have this list. See their page ad.

\$255 FOR AN 8D. STAMP.

A superb used copy with large margins of the Ceylon 8d. brown 1857-8 stamp issue, imperforate and with the Star watermark, was sold at auction in London. This sum was \$30 in excess of the catalogue price.

Good bidding was noticed for the Sir Alan Bingham Air Post Covers. The #526 England-Australia flown signed cover bearing "Darwin" arrival postmark, only ten of which are in existence, fetched \$70. A return journey cover realized the same price.

If you got cuts or photos your collection we are always glad to help you show them.

STAMPS ON ORIGINAL COVERS.

A writer in The Philatelic Magazine for December last said, "The interest taken in, and the demand for, original covers, is greater today than ever before."

With this I fully agree and what is true in Great Britain, is to an even larger extent true of this country.

Looking back to my early days of stamp dealing 35 to 40 years ago, I recollect that the greatest demand for stamps on original covers came from German and Switzerland. Both these nations took especial care both of their business and domestic correspondence. Before the days of the manufactured envelopes, letters were generally written on a double sheet of paper and this was folded and addressed and formed the cover as well as the letter. The habit grew up of docketing such letters and even when the envelopes came into use, this habit continued in many business houses, and to this we owe the preservation of many of our treasures on covers. As a student of, and a writer on, stamps for many years past—I have, on numberless occasions, proved the great value of stamps used on the original cover.

To give a very recent example: Some three years ago I bought over a thousand covers from the "Prosser" find, mostly of Canadian stamps. Among these there were some hundreds of the 1859 10 cents, extending from the "black-browns" of the first printing to the "red-lilacs" of the last printing. From a study of these, combined with his own copies on cover, Senator J. A. Calder was able to work out the exact order of each printing and assign to it its correct color.—Philatelic Classics.

"OUTSIDE THE BEAT OF PHILATELY"

Questions.	Answers.
1. The first stamp auction in U. S.?	1. By Wm. Leavett, May 23, 1870.
2. In England?	2. By Sotheby, London, March 13, 1872. A 20c St. Louis brought £8 12sh.
3. The first Gov. remainder sale?	3. There is a record that Saxony sold in fall 1868 the old covers for 8 thalers (about 6 dollars) per hundred weight.
4. Aur?	4. An abbreviation of Aurar (Island money), used first on stamp of 1876.
5. Watermarkt 'AUSTRIA'?	5. The word appears on a bar across the sheet. Above is a lion, below 1880. The water-marked sheet of Bhopal, India.
6. The smallest postcard?	6. Issued in Auckland, New Zealand, size 70x42mm. for a vote on tobacco.
7. What poetess is pictured?	7. Gertrudis Gomez de Avellaneda, pictured on 5c 1914 of Cuba.
8. How many number broken wheel cancellations of Bavaria?	8. 608.
9. Designer of the triangular Cape of Good Hope?	9. Charles Bell, postmaster-general of Capetown.
10. Where is the largest philatelic library?	10. Collectors Club, N. Y., formerly owned by V. Suppantchitsch, Graz, Aust. This transfer took place in 1922, so may be now a larger one.

Part credit must be given to Bungerz Grosses Lexikon, but finding and translation are mine.

O. T. HARTMAN.

THE SUN NEVER SETS IN PHILATELY LAND

By William J. Reed, Member Philatelic Society of Pittsburgh.

(Continued from last issue.)

The next series of 1907, goes back to the settlement of Virginia, the story of Captain John Smith and his Indian bride Pocahontas, in connection with the founding of Jamestown. Three varieties complete this historical and beautiful set.

In 1909, three series of issues.. The first, a two-cent carmine Memorial stamp bearing the portrait of Abraham Lincoln, the second, a two-cent carmine variety of William H. Seward, celebrating his conduct of negotiations for the purchase of Alaska from Russia. The third was a two-cent stamp with a view of the Hudson river palisades in the background and in the foreground Henry Hudson's "Half Moon" sailing up the river, and the "Clermont" steaming down, with Indians in canoes alongside. This stamp commemorated the discovery of the Hudson river and the centennial of its first navigation by steam.

The series of 1912-13 marked the opening of the Panama canal and celebrated the discovery of the Pacific ocean. Balboa, the Panama Canal, Golden Gate, and the discovery of San Francisco bay are its subjects. Later, 1919, a figure of Liberty victorious against a background of the flags of America, Britain, France, Italy and Belgium, on a three cent variety commemorating the success of Armistice Day in the World War.

The Pilgrim Tercentenary set, 1920, represented three values, illustrating the "Mayflower," "Landing of the Pilgrims," and the "Signing of the Compact." A memorial stamp in 1923, in black, made its appearance, after the death of President Harding, bearing his portrait. A similar issue in brown, appeared in April, 1924, which is still in use, and is known as the Harding one and a half cent stamp, for second class mail matter.

The recent commemorative issues are dated 1924 and 1925. The first recognized the Huguenot-Walloon Tercentenary with the "New Netherland," the Walloon's ship; their landing at Albany, N. Y., and the Rebault Memorial Monument at Mayport, Florida, the colony's landing. This set is truly an artistic delight. The 1925 series commemorates the battle of Lexington and Concord, comprising three values, showing "Washington at Cambridge" taking command of the American army; the "Birth of Liberty," representing the famous battle; and the "Minute Man," which might recall to us, the old school day favorite, "The Midnight Ride of Paul Revere."

The Norse-American set issued in May, 1925, represented the Norse-American Centennial held at St. Paul, Minnesota. Two bi-colored values complete the set. The two-cent variety pictures the "Sloop Restaurationen" and the five-cent, a "Viking Ship." It is unusual to see an American flag on a Viking ship, on this stamp, but, of course, stranger things than that have happened when a stamp artist is in love, or rather, if he is susceptible to sea-sickness.

The most recent additional features to regular postage are the half-cent sepia variety, honoring Nathan Hale of Connecticut, and a seventeen-cent variety in bank-note black, honoring our great War President, Woodrow Wilson, issued on his birthday, December 28, 1925. The portrait and color of this variety was chosen by Mrs. Wilson. Benjamin Harrison also appears on a new thirteen-cent rich green variety, issued January 11, 1926.

At this time, mention of the fact, might be made that the first appearance of U. S. postage stamps, in many instances, is on the birthday of the men represented, and sold only at postoffices of their birthplace, or cities having some historical connection thereto. It must also be remembered that the stamps described in this story have only been in connection with commemoratives, specials, or additional issues to regular postage only, as most of us are familiar with seeing or purchasing at one time or other, most of the regular postage items, excepting possibly the higher values such as the two and five dollar varieties, which in the past have the engraved portraits of James Madison, Chief Justice Marshall and Benjamin Franklin. The current high values are the two-dollar, blue, bearing the picture of the beautiful U. S. Capitol at Washington and the five dollar, carmine and blue, a replica of the statue, "America" in full face, which is on the dome of the capitol.

In addition to the items described, the postoffice department has from time to time issued other special features, such as the 1912 Parcel Post set, in carmine, one cent to one dollar values, illustrating the modern methods and facilities in handling parcel post, in connection with industrial and agricultural views throughout the United States; the new fifteen cent and twenty-cent Special Delivery stamps, a new twenty-five cent Handling Stamp and the Air Mail issues.

The Air Mail stamps of 1918 and 1923 consist of two series of three values, eight, sixteen and twenty-four cents, and incidentally a pane of the latter value of the 1918 series, was found showing an aeroplane inverted, and later sold to Colonel E. H. R. Green of Texas, son of Hetty Green, for \$20,000. This erroneous sheet is now part of Colonel Green's two million dollar stamp collection. Other exceptional items of the "United States Rare Jewels in Philately" are the Provisional Issues of Postmasters, issued at various cities before the adoption of general postage in 1847, among which will be found the "Greenwich, New Hampshire," a stamp valued at \$132,000, the highest price ever paid for a single postage stamp. This unique specimen is owned by Colonel Lind of Utica, N. Y., whose collection is probably known as the best in the world.

On February 13, 1926, a new ten cent air mail stamp, blue, made its first appearance in Detroit and other neighboring cities, being issued in conjunction with the new air mail rate, and bid favoring Henry Ford to operate the air mail from Detroit and other lake cities, and shows aeroplanes flying over a map of the United States. This attractive variety is the most unusual stamp the Government has ever issued, owing to its very lengthy appearance.

In connection with many of the commemorative stamps described, the United States Mints issued beautiful commemorative half dollars, of which the following have been the most desired for show pieces among collectors: Louisiana Purchase, 1892-1893; Lincoln-Illinois 1918; Alabama Centennial 1919; Pilgrimage Centenary, 1920; Maine Centennial, 1920; Missouri Centennial, 1921; George Washington Memorial, 1922; Monroe Doctrine, 1923; Huguenot Walloon, 1924; Norwegian-American, 1925; Lexington-Concord, 1925; California Diamond Jubilee, 1925, commemorating the famous gold rush to California one hundred years ago; and the Stone Mountain Memorial, 1925, in honor of the valor of the soldiers of the South, showing Generals Jackson and Lee on horseback gazing towards the famous Stone Mountain in Tennessee. The U. S. mint sold this coin for one cent for every cent of every dollar realized will be forwarded to the Atlanta, Georgia Mint, and for completion of the memorial in the granite of the mountain portraying Jefferson Davis, Lee and Jackson followed by marching troops, extending a quarter of a mile. It is difficult for one to realize that this masterpiece of sculptural art cut into Stone Mountain will be 153 feet in length, as high as a ten-story office building, or as H. N. Randolph, president of the United States Association has expressed it: "The great sphinx of Egypt, in the head of General Lee's shoulder would conceal only part of his head." When completed this memorial will probably be the eighth wonder of the world.

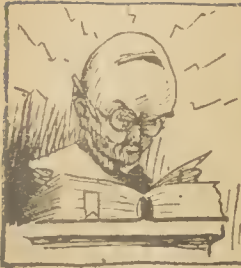
The United States now have on sale at every postoffice from coast to coast, the "Liberty Bell" stamp, a commemorative postage stamp honoring the signing of the Declaration of Independence, 1776-1926. At all the large banks one can also purchase a commemorative silver half dollar, bearing the profile of President Calvin Coolidge issued to celebrate the one hundred and thirty-first anniversary of American Independence and International Exposition now at Philadelphia. This is the first instance of the portrait of a president on a United States coin during his lifetime.

Dream Finale.

All together, boys, lets go! All aboard! Ding Dong! Dong! Toot Toot! Choo Choo! Ring that old Locomotive-Liberty-Bell Engineer, and lets all join in singing, "Yankee Doodle." What's that? Holy Cinco Centavos! A Union News-boy selling the scarce Perf. 10, five cent error. Hey, boy, let me have about a dozen sheets of that, will you? And say, bring me a "Boscawen" and a few blocks of the twenty-four cent inverted air mails on your next trip back, what say? Atta boy!

The End.

A new design for postage stamps is to be introduced in Portugal.



INQUIRIES

It is to your benefit as well as ours as when not sent thus oftentimes your answer does not reach me in time to be answered in the next issue and is consequently held over a issue. All questions relative to coins and paper money, curios, minerals, etc., should be sent to the editors of these departments. Owing to the large number of inquiries received it is impossible to get them all into print at once. Each must take its turn. At once we ask that you enclose a stamp and we will reply direct.

Olaf Theo. Sather, Strongfield, Sask., Canada: The sample copy of "West" has been sent you, and we hope you will like it, so well that you eventually will become our regular subscriber. Of other hobby papers we can recommend you "Hobby News," Jacksonville, Fla., and "The Numismatist," Baltimore, Md. If further information is wanted about these publications, send stamp for postage.

We can not very well in this column give information on this or that dealer. And we don't have the space here to give rules for an exchange club. Study the copy of "West" sent you, and write some of the exchange clubs for further information on that point.

And one thing more: You write that several people are getting interested in stamps. Call their attention to "West" and induce them to become subscribers. In doing so, you do "West" a good turn and at the same time give the new beginners a lift which they will appreciate later on. M. S.

Ernest Kessler, Lakewood, N. J.: The Mint Report now gives the number of coins struck at each mint up till the year 1900 collectively, and in the numbers given for later years no distinction is made between types, so I am unable to furnish the desired information. M. S.

Geo. W. Morgan, Temple, Texas: Why was the Confederate money printed on one side only? Most of the state bills are blank on one side. I have a State of Miss. note, 1870, green on both sides, fine looking.

I have several hundred triangular arrow points made of flint, very fine and from 3-8 to 3-4 inch long, what are they called, war or bird points; also what would they be worth on the relic market as I do not see them listed and wish to sell part of them. H. D. CARTER.

Read ads in "West" and you will find addresses of dealers and collectors you can correspond with on the subject. M. S.

Please give me all the information you can on mineral polishing machinery, where I can get the machines, what they will cost, the best stones to use, any information you can give would be a great help as I am new in the game. I would like to get started to polishing rocks and minerals at once, you may know of some second hand machine that would work fine. What speed machine will I need? I remain, a life-long subscriber.—R. H. Terry, Box 317, Courtland, Ala.

Ans: Concerning this question please write Mr. C. E. Briggs, Lisbon, Iowa, and enclose postage for reply. M. S.

THE PHILATELIC WEST

Q. When was the Franklin head changed to the Washington head on one-cent postage stamps? E. A.

A. The change was made on February 12, 1912.

Q. Is it possible to get coins made in specified years from the department of the treasury? C. D. L.

A. It does not keep coins segregated according to years.

What is the penalty for using canceled postage stamps? J. B.

Section 522 of the Postal Regulations provides that the penalty for the use of canceled postage stamps shall be a fine of \$500 or three years in prison, or both if the guilty person is an employee of the postal service. For others the penalty is a fine of \$500 or one year's imprisonment, or both.

Q.: Were rings ever used for money? E. S.

Ans.: "Ring money" was used by the Egyptians. The rings of precious metals were circular but a slight gap was left, that the rings could be formed into a chain. This substitute for money found its way to western Europe and the British Isles.

Q.: When was the coinage of the \$1 gold piece discontinued? P. D. T.

Ans.: The \$1 gold coin was discontinued under authority of the act of September 26, 1890.

Q. How many times has the design of the 1-cent piece been changed? R. G. F.

A. There have been coined seventeen designs. Some of the changes in design were very slight. The first 1-cent pieces were coined in 1792, and there have been no years in which pennies have not been made except 1815 and 1823.

Q.: When were the first United States postage stamps issued? R. G.

Ans.: The first official use of postage stamps was sanctioned by Act of Congress of March 1847. On July 1, 1847, the first stamps were issued. They were a 5 cent and a 10 cent stamp. The 5 cent stamp bore the likeness of Franklin, while the 10 cent stamp bore the portrait of Washington from Stewart's painting. Professional stamps were issued prior to 1847 and were used by postmasters at some of the larger offices. They consisted of an impression placed on letters with impressions such as "paid 5c," the name of the office. These stamps are rare and are among the most valuable known.

Q.: Does Mexico use paper currency? R. E. G.

Ans.: Mexico is about the only country in the world in which the money in circulation is gold, silver and copper. Paper currency is not used.

Q. Is there a premium on a Columbian half dollar? J. W. H.

A. These coins are worth no more than their face value.

Q. Who molded the first silver dollar for the United States? W. P. M.

A. The office of the director of the mint says that the first silver dollar was coined in 1794 at the Philadelphia mint. Henry Wright was appointed by George Washington as coiner.

Is there any other commemorative coins to be coined this year?

JESSE J. GLOSS.

No act has been passed by Congress authorizing further issues of commemorative coins this year. M. S.

High prices on stamps are like the weather. Everybody kicking about it.—Sparks.

NEWFOUNDLAND.—By Roessler.

Thanks to the kindness of the P. M. G. of Newfoundland, William Woodford, we are informed that a new set will be issued "when required."

The 4c purple, which is used within the empire, will have portrait of Prince of Wales. Other denominations will show historical places, such as Heart's Content, (landing of first trans-Atlantic cable in 1866), Cabot Tower on Signal Hill, (where first trans-Atlantic wireless message was received in 1901), St. John's city, (taking view from which first trans-Atlantic airship started in 1919.) This set may be rightly called the trans-Atlantic set. Another will show map of Great Britain, Canada, etc., with Liverpool five days away, New York two and one-half days, Canada nine hours—thus emphasizing geographic location. Another denomination will have a map of Newfoundland and the dependency of Labrador.

At this writing decision and date of issue have not been announced.

STAMPS AND SPORTS—By F. P. Brennan-Ward.

All healthy boys are lovers of sport—or at least they should be—for it is my belief that there is something wrong with the psychological make-up of any boy who is not interested in or does not play at least one sport. The stamps with sporting associations issued by various countries therefore should make an appeal to every junior collector. There have not been many of these sporting emissions, and quite an interesting collection could be formed at a small outlay.

Taking these stamps in chronological order, the first set is that issued by Greece in 1896, known as the Olympic Games issue. These show boxers with cestus, throwing the discus, chariot racing, Victory with laurel crown, etc., and are a vivid reminder of the days when the term Greek was a synonym of athlete. Certain values of this set were surcharged in 1960.

Greece issued her second Olympic Games set in 1906, which was a slightly different type. The sports depicted were wrestling, running and putting the weight, together with various symbolic designs.

Belgium followed the example of Greece in 1920 with a short set of three values, which were sold at a premium of 5c on each stamp for the benefit of disabled soldiers. The set—which is finely engraved—shows discus throwing, chariot racing and running. The three stamps were reissued a year later surcharged "20c."

The next set in order of issue is the 1924 one of France, which consists of two types and four values. The designs have been much ridiculed by the wits in the philatelic press, one of them describing the design which shows La Belle Francais holding a statue of Victory as "a poor woman contemplating with bitterness a bad bargain in the shape of a plaster statuette worth about two cents, which she has been foolish enough to buy from a hawker for three francs."

American Efforts.

It was in 1924, also, that Uruguay issued the much maligned set to commemorate her winning the football championship in the Olympic Games of that year. The set, which is of three values, is very interesting, as the design depicts the headless "Victory" of Samothrace.

A year later Costa Rica came into line by issuing a set to commemorate (and also pay for) the Olympic Games which were held in that state towards the end of 1924. This set—which is poorly lithographed—consists of three

values, both imperforate and perforated, and was sold at a premium of 10c on each stamp, to raise funds for the Central American Olympic Games.

The last and, in my mind, the most interesting set connected with sport is that issued by Hungary early this year. This consists of eight values, many of them in two colors, and shows fencing, football, hurdling, skiing, skating, tennis, athletes marching round a stadium, and river sports. No boy could be quite thrilled by these stamps; take, for instance, the one showing the football match. We can almost see the left forward touch of the half-back—the center forward taking it in his stride—the long kicking shot—the crowd leaping in breathless upward leap of the goalie—the forward bearing down on the goal—burst of cheering—and we almost cry "Well cleared, Sir!"

Of the same series is the one showing river sports—but at this rate we may never see it, although the set is sold at a low price. Then on the long winter evenings when the wind is howling outside and cricket is but a memory—take out your albums and so console yourselves for the many pleasures and amusements which are rendered unplayable by the inclemencies of the weather—Stamp Collecting.

W. J. Mitchell of Poudre, Colorado, one of the leading precanceled collectors, is selling his collection of 11 cancels except his thirteen centers and his human parts. The H. W. Hays, 15 West 33rd Street, New York, are selling the same. The first sale was held March 1 and was sponsored by the New York Precancel Club organized a few months ago to which a percentage of the proceeds is presented by the auctioneers.

Mr. Mitchell has been collecting precancels for years. He has been successful in accumulating specimens from small towns which other collectors either had overlooked or were unable to secure.

Australia's first common native postage stamp will be issued on May 9th, at the occasion of the official opening (by the Duke of York) of the Federal Parliament at Canberra, and the transfer of the seat of government from Melbourne to the new Federal Capital.

The stamp will be 1d. and the design is from the engraver of the common of the Dominion. It is sure to be worthy of this great event in Australian history.

There will be a supply (about 2,000,000) it is to be printed, and will be on sale at all post offices in the Commonwealth. 1 Post.

Kansas City, Mo., now has a very active stamp club which meets twice each month on the evening of the first Saturday and the third Wednesday at Saint Mark's Lutheran church, 3801 Harrison boulevard. There are over fifty members and the attendance averages twenty-five at each meeting. The secretary is Lester E. Oberholtz, 935 W. 33rd St. Terrace.—Sent by Jerrems.

"Round the World in Ten Minutes."—Such is the arresting heading of a column cutting from an unnamed American paper, kindly sent us by an anonymous reader. The ten-minutes' globe-encircling tour was, of course, achieved by a postage stamp—by Betty Brooks at the Stamp Show recently held in the Harrisburg Public Library.

PAYS \$7.800 FOR AUSTRIAN STAMPS SENT TO EMPEROR

Berlin, March 11.—Thirty Thousand marks (about \$7,500) was paid by a New York collector yesterday for a block of 12 so-called yellow mercury Austrian newspaper stamps of the issue of 1851. Heinrich Koehler, the auctioneer, refused to divulge the purchaser's name.

The price was the second highest ever paid at auction for stamps in Germany. The yellow mercuries were found about a year ago by an Austrian official rummaging through old papers.

They were affixed to a package of papers addressed to Emperor Francis Joseph, which either was never delivered or never opened. The postmaster who canceled the stamps seemingly used special care to disfigure them as little as possible, and the block constitutes the best specimens of the issue extant.—Sent by Allen.

NEWFOUNDLAND

The 1c stamp, the most used and which is to show portrait of the head of the empire the Prince of Wales, will probably be issued on June 23, the day of the anniversary of his birth. This suggestion was made to the Government by one of the greatest experts on B. N. A. This is a case of listing date of issue before even the P. M. G. knows it. A dealer also suggested to the P. O. that as the courts have recently decided that the Labrador coast belongs to Newfoundland that stamps be overprinted for use in that dependency and has offered to buy \$10,000 worth. Therefore, something can be expected this summer from the land of Cabot.—Roessler.

LINCOLN STAMP COLLECTORS' CLUB DISPLAY AT NEB. UNIVERSITY

An exhibit of United States and Central American stamps will be placed on display for a month in the University of Nebraska library within two weeks by the Lincoln Collectors' club. Plans for the exhibit and another which will be shown soon at the city library were made at the meeting of the club of the chamber of commerce.

R. L. Hoyt of Omaha, said to be the foremost collector in the state, will be entertained at a dinner and will talk on stamps and will show a number of his albums.—Lincoln paper.

MORE LONDON DAILY STAMP "NEWS."

Examples of two postage stamps of the British Empire, which bear religious portraits, are to be sold. Malta pays a tribute to St. Paul, the Saint being depicted by the side of a cliff, while behind him is the serpent Alick, attacked him after landing. The other British stamp is that of the Virgin Islands, which bears the portrait of St. Ursula. The Portuguese are the only other people who have had religious postage stamps, some of those issued for the Azores bearing the portrait of St. Anthony.

THE STAMP BUSINESS IN BOSTON.

A Photographic Visit to H. E. Harris & Co., just published by that well known American firm for distribution as a souvenir of their activities and with the view of giving the reader some insight into the conditions and difficulties which beset the stamp dealer in the United States. The excellent illustrations are in every sense illuminating, as is also the intimate but modest text which accompanies them. Harris & Co. removed to larger quarters at 535 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston, Mass. See their ads. Send for one now.

NEW 1½ CENT STAMP NOW SURCHARGED ON U. S. ENVELOPES.

Government economy has produced a new variety of postage stamps which will be sought by collectors who have been busy rounding up specimens of the Norse-American, Lexington-Concord and Pilgrim commemorative issues and of those made necessary by the increased postage rates.

The new variety is a surcharged 1½ cent stamped envelope. Large stocks of the 1-cent stamped envelope, rendered useless by the increase of the third class rate to 1½ cents, will be surcharged in the center of the stamp imprint with the numerals 1½ and the 1-cent numerals will be obliterated with four vertical bars. When the first class postage was reduced from 3 to 2 cents after the war, large supplies of 3-cent stamped envelopes were surcharged 2 cents.—Sent by Allen.

This is the 20th century, things move fast and the stamp world is no exception. Changes have and are taking place, the average collector, on the outside, away from the "feel" of things, does not know. We are telling you, and whether you buy of us or elsewhere, there has been much valuable information given in this and past issues of West. We are doing an educational work as it were, part of which belongs to the regular stamp papers, and other dealers too. It must be done, or you will lose and so will we.

Many of the comments we have made in this paper are "inside" information. Before this practically no attempt has been made to educate the collector, or inform him what conditions are so that he will have a better understanding with his dealer. It is only natural the average collector should expect to have no difficulty in getting stamps cat. 10c to \$1 each for he thinks they must be plenty. Alas, it is not so in far too many cases. Again if 40 per cent of the stamps in the catalogue can be sold for about half catalogue or less, why not balance, but again facts and theory are far apart. The remaining 60 per cent contains some material that sells for way over catalogue, much at near full catalogue, and in the end is the best material to buy from an investment point. A thousand dollars worth of catalogue of these "hard" items will sell twice as quick, and bring two to three times as much as a thousand dollars catalogue of this ordinary big discount stuff. Space costs us good money, and we are using it in this way to promote a better mutual understanding, and get the viewpoint of our patrons on the right track. The day is coming when those who take our advice will thank us for it, and realize we "talk straight" in this paper, and know what we are talking about.

If you see a good stamp you've been after a long time offered for more than half list, don't pass it up on that account. The fellow who draws the 50 per cent line today belong to stage coach days, and will lose out on most of the worth while stuff that jumps in value every year or two. Likewise he'll find when he comes to sell that few dealers seem to be interested in his stuff at anything like a price. A little cream always makes the milk better, you know.—Emco.

Oh say mister have you seen Rosie's sister?

Yes. She passed by a few minutes ago and said she was going to the P. O. to send for the P. West.

We know a collector who hasn't every stamp in the world, and still is happy.—Sparks.

PHILATELIC NOTES OF INTEREST.

Airmail stamps and covers have been increasing so rapidly in this country that it has been practically impossible to form a collection, due to the scarcity.

A great number of those who take up stamp collecting for what is to be made out of it will end up as enthusiastic stamp collectors, and collect for the sake of the hobby.

Many a man has returned to stamp collecting on finding his old schoolboy collection . . . if he comes on some early Swiss we can quite see the point in saying "that he has taken up the threads" again.

Only on the 1851 issue of United States stamps do we find any extensive work of retouching. It is this work makes the 1c, 3c, 10c and 12c stamps of 1851 so popular with studious collectors throughout the world.

A young collector will get more pleasure at the start out of a general collection or a collection of three or four countries and give more pleasure to his friends, than by boring them with a lot of pages of one stamp showing scratches and scars, caused in many cases by hard wear on plates.

Danish West Indies all obsolete. A popular country since its purchase by the United States. Now is a very good time for filling out your blank spaces in these issues.

In finding old envelopes never cut off the stamps as all of the old stamps are worth more on the original envelopes. Today collectors are interested in postmarks as well as stamps. Some envelopes used in the South during the Civil War bore no stamps and certain types of these are of considerable value.

NEW IRISH STAMPS—SALE OF AIR POST COVERS.

Three famous Dublin buildings—the General Post Office, the Custom House and the Four Courts—are to be depicted on the new stamps of 2s. 6d., 5s. and 10s values of the Irish Free State which are to be issued shortly.

At present British stamps overprinted "Saorstát Éireann" are in use. When the new stamps are issued they will complete the Free State series, the characters of which are distinctively Irish.

Some interesting Air Post covers were sold at auction in London.

On his flight to Australia last year Sir Alan Cobham carried ten unstamped letters which were postmarked on arrival at Darwin. Nine were carried on the return journey and were franked with British stamps and bear the "Darwin" despatch and "Hampstead" arrival postmarks. One each of these envelopes is for sale.

A complete set of four envelopes which were carried in the United States in December, 1926, by Sir Alan Cobham in his flights between New York, Philadelphia and Washington and bear special cachets, dated postmarks, and are initialled "A. J. C.," were also offered.

Oswaldus Northingerus of England made 1,600 ivory dishes, so small that all of them could be put into an ordinary sized cup.

On April 1, 1927, twenty stamp enthusiasts met in the Y. M. C. A. rooms of Fort Worth, Texas, and organized the Fort Worth Stamp Club. A very interesting evening was enjoyed by all present. The club will meet twice a month. A by-law committee has been appointed and will draw up a set of by-laws for the club. This is the beginning of a very large stamp club as there are over a hundred collectors here.—Carle E. W. Welcome.

ADVERTISING CANCELLATIONS.—By M. Sorensen.

So far this year I have seen no new U. S. cancellations. In this respect we are lagging behind, while Canada, as usual, seems wide awake to the importance of this splendid and interesting method of advertising. Here are a few from our northern neighbor.

Quebec, P. Q., Canada: In one straight line above illustration of man with dog team: QUEBEC WINTER SPORTS DRIVES. This cancellation was used last year by the same office.

Toronto Ont., Canada, in three lines: THE POSTMAN IS YOUR BEST SALESMAN, USE HIM.

Estevan, Sask., Canada, in four lines: PLAN TO PLANT ANOTHER TREE. To the right illustration of a tree.

Quebec, P. Q., Canada, in English and French, two lines each: HELP PREVENT FOREST FIRES. AIDEZ A EMPECHER LES FEUX DE FORETS.

Cape Town, South Africa, in English and Dutch, three lines each: SUPPORT SOUTH AFRICAN INDUSTRIES. ONDERSTEUN SUID AFRIKAANSE NYWEHREDE.

Jarban, South Africa, uses another style of the same slogan, one line each: SUPPORT S. A. INDUSTRIES. ONDERSTEUN S. A. INDUSTRIER.

Copenhagen, Denmark, in three lines: KOBESTAEVNET 5-20 MARTS KOPENHAVN.

MORE MEDICAL TESTIMONY

"Stamps keep me fit," says Dr. W. Byam in the Express. "If," he says, "a man can be interested his mind will surely be refreshed, and as stamp collecting brings with it no cares or responsibilities, and adds nothing to the labors of those around the collector, it must be a most valuable pastime for those of us in need of recreation to turn our thoughts from the stress of a busy life. It was in this spirit that I took up the hobby just three years ago. I was in need of some recreation which would divert my thoughts at the end of a strenuous and anxious day's work, and one which would free my mind from worries likely to disturb the night. My choice has proved a complete success. In addition, it has introduced me to many new friends, and given me some small insight into printing, paper making, and the many other technical, and may I add, fascinating processes connected with the production of postage stamps. I know no better recreation for those who need to have their thoughts turned from their difficulties."

When the Universal Postal Union held its eighth congress in Stockholm last summer it made various new rulings in respect to postage on different classes of international correspondence. As a result some countries will issue stamps of new values and others will change the colors of their issues.

For example, Latvia has begun to distribute a set that contains three values not hitherto used: 5 santims, 15 santims and 25 santims.

The designs of the new Latvian series relieve the monotony of the current stamps with their invariable coat-of-arms. The designs include a map of the republic, portraits of noted men and views of Riga, Libau, Mitau and other cities.

Summer buyers are ones most always buy the year round and get the bargains when the other fellow wants to sell. Is why most ads pay in largest and oldest and best is the West.

STAMP COLLECTOR FINDS RADIO USEFUL IN LOCATING SPECIMENS.

A clear voice emitted by a loud speaker awakened in a stamp collector instant mental activity: "We have just received a letter from the steamship Cathlamet, a United States Shipping Board vessel, telling us that our program was received clearly off Gold Coast last week. The letter was mailed from Acora, Gold Coast. This is Station KDKA, Pittsburgh."

Gold Coast—Gold Coast! Why, he had no stamp from Gold Coast; in fact, he had never heard of it! The atlas was consulted; yes, there it was—a coast colony of the British Empire, along the Gulf of Guinea, in north-western Africa.

Now, how could he get that stamp? Would the management of KDKA let him have it? he wondered.

The next day he called at the studio and explained to the director what he wanted; told of his lifelong love for stamps, of the conflict which had been going on in his interests, between stamp collecting and the radio.

The director listened understandingly. He, too, had taken a great liking to his hobby of saving rare stamps. He had a whole drawer full of letters from far-off countries, commenting on the programs from the stations, and he had preserved intact all the envelopes with their queer stamps.

Opening the drawer of his desk, he lifted out a handful of odd envelopes of all shapes and sizes. Some of them were addressed in English; others were written in angular Teutonic, with straight lines and few curves; some were badly printed in vivid inks from the many nations of the globe.

The collector feasted his eyes on the envelopes. Ah! he breathed, here, indeed, was a treat. Many of the stamps on the envelopes were mates of ones in his collection, many were strange.

The Gold Coast stamp was on top; a threepence postage and revenue stamp in gray-blue with relief printing along the sides, and blue letters on white background at top and bottom. The classic profile of a bearded man might have been one of the Georges in primeval dress; it might have been a tribal chieftain of the early Christian era; a Roman Senator.

After looking over the collection the stamp collector sighed; but it was a sigh of happiness. Sincerely he thanked the director for the happy hour, and promised to come back soon. * * * With him he proudly bore the gray-blue Gold Coast beauty homeward.

Stamp collecting and radio were working in harmony at last!—New York Times. Sent by Nardun.

CROSS WORDS.

In 1873 postmasters in the United States used all sorts of fanciful cancellations cut on corks. Mr. Alfred H. Benners, of Birmingham, Ala., kindly shows a specimen of one of these—a Maltese Cross in purple on the 3 cents green of the time. His submission of it is apropos of the recent Malta stamp ramp, hence this verse:

Little Eve in the drawing class
Was trying not to fail.

Asked how to make a Maltese Cross
Said, "Just step on its tail!"

—Stamp Collecting.

Stamp Collecting is pleasure at the time and there is pleasure ahead—years of it—as you turn to your collection, and besides it is one of the few pleasures which ultimately may give you back more pennies than you ever spent on it.

COMMUNITY STAMP COLLECTING.—By S. Effell.

We welcomed "Community Singing" as a naturally healthy form of communism best calculated to counteract the evil effects of the other variety.

It now falls to our lot to extend a still more hearty welcome to community stamp collecting. The suggestion, emanating as it does from the "lay press," is particularly pleasing.

The Schoolmaster and Woman Teacher's Chronicle publishes a most interesting series of articles from the pen of W. J. Wicks, dealing with philately from the viewpoint of a member of the teaching profession. The writer recognizes the usefulness of the hobby as being a real help in training the young mind, and is at particular pains to emphasize his reasons for so doing. We wish him every success in his endeavor to popularize the idea of "School Collections" to which each scholar may contribute, and thus secure to themselves a proprietary interest of which they may be justly proud in years to come.

The Nation treats us to chats by "Philatelist," who, so an editorial announcement proclaims, is "a well informed and large collector."

We have passed all the collectors of our acquaintance, blessed with an excess of either stature or obesity, rapidly through our mind, but do not feel safe in hazarding a guess as to the writer's identity. That he is well informed there can be no gainsaying, and he is evidently a reader. Writing upon the subject of Foreign Post Office Departments catering for the requirements of the collector, he gives pride of place to the U. S. Postal Authorities for their considerate attention in providing anything requisitioned which may be in stock and giving special attention to the selection of specimens of perfect centration. This he follows up by calling the Russian Soviet Government over the coals for exactly opposite treatment. His remarks upon this and other matters of interest regarding the collecting of and specializing in the stamps of Russia since the fateful year 1914 are worthy of note:

"Soviet Russia has also its State Stamp Department, as would have been expected; they, however, do not supply stamps at face value, at least not to foreigners, and a commission of ten per cent is charged upon all stamps exported, the 10 per cent, being added to the face value. This would not appear to be good business, for stamps thus sold to philatelists abroad are never likely to be employed in postal use, and therefore their sales, after deducting cost of production, represent a net profit. Collectors, however, are not willing in most instances to pay this premium, hence the lack of attention to modern Soviet Russian stamps accorded by collectors at the moment. This is a pity, as they are otherwise most attractive issues, well and artistically produced, with plenty of variety to make them interesting. Indeed, the field of Russian stamps and its subsidiary States since 1914 makes one of the most fascinating studies; the stamps themselves have much to teach us philatelically, and from the historical standpoint it is doubtful whether any group of countries can show us such a fascinating array.

"Many shrewd judges have for some years past been gradually accumulating collections of modern Russian stamps with a view to financial reward."

Some readers may doubt the wisdom of the "shrewd judges," and time alone can tell, but we know of many stamps of Russia, etc., which were once at rubbish prices but are now practically unobtainable.—Stamp Collecting.

RARE BRITISH STAMP IS SOLD FOR \$2,100.

One of New York city's leading collectors paid \$2,100 for the rarest of the Great Britain official stamp issues. It was an unused 10-shilling stamp, 1902 issue, surcharged "I. R. Official." The catalogue value was \$1,000. According to the dealers' records, it was the first time that a stamp of that variety had been sold at auction in this country. Few copies are known.

The stamp was one of the leading rarities in the collection of the late William Wolters of Honolulu.

The Collectors' Club was informed last week that the Western Australia 4-penny stamp, 1854 issue, with the swan design inverted, was sold in a London auction for \$3,400. Only ten copies of this rarity are known. The only one in this country is owned by Colonel E. H. R. Green. It was said he paid slightly more than was bid for one in the London auction. The latter was closely cut on one margin, while Colonel Green's copy is perfect.

The Ferrary collection, which was recently sold in Paris, had a perfect copy, which brought £1,060. The King of England, whose British Colonial collection is said to be one of the best in the world, also has one of the ten known copies.

The largest number of auction sales ever scheduled for a single month in New York were held in April. The collection of Arthur H. Lamborn of Montclair will attract more than usual interest. That sold by John A. Klemann of the Nassau Stamp Company in two parts, required eight days.—Sent by E. Kessler.

The philatelic press (papers) is found in all the large nations such as Italy, France, England, Germany, the United States and in all the small countries and larger colonies like the Indies, Ceylon, New Zealand, etc; in the north, south, east and west; it appears in all languages from Italian to Japanese and Chinese as well as in English, German, French, Spanish, Swedish, etc.

It includes many journals and revues, from the smallest revue of four pages (composed, perhaps, not for publication) to the largest and most sumptuous revues, of twenty, thirty or more pages, rich in illustrations, and printed on glazed paper. What a great ———

Now the great phalanx of philatelic publications is not organized; the editors of one journal know nothing of the journals in neighboring and distant countries, and do not fraternize with each other.

West has seen by the latest numbers of "Filatelia" that that revue has taken the initiative in instituting an International Federation of the Philatelic Press. This Federation has as its temporary address that of this revue (P. O. Box 487, Turin 24, Italy) and all the philatelic revues published in the world can participate there.

To start with the Federation has the simple purpose of collecting and which will give unity to those matters which concern a philatelic journal, but soon the purposes will expand, and to this end, we ask you to be good enough to communicate your ideas and propositions.

We believe that to facilitate a more rapid exchange of ideas on the subject it is advisable to nominate one representative from each nation for all the philatelic journals which are published there. They want your support to such an international federation of the philatelic press, and in this any gentleman can receive the assurance of our perfect consideration.

PICTORIALS—NECESSARY AND OTHERWISE.

From a truly philatelic aspect it is right and proper to view unnecessary and speculative issues of stamps with displeasure. And it is the correct thing—in the eyes of the philatelic world—for stamp journals to denounce those governments who persist in “ringing the changes” on philatelists by providing new issues on all possible occasions. Whether the occasion be the anniversary of a great historian, or whether it be to commemorate some important event in a country’s history, the government concerned always has the “weather eye” on the possibilities of the sale of the stamps to collectors. Many of the present-day pictorials, which are classed as unnecessary issues, are veritable works of art. No expense has been spared in their production; for the governments know full well that a beautiful series is immediately rushed by every stamp collector—and sometimes by philatelists.

Although for many years philatelists have condemned the issue of these stamps, still, the governments in question continue to carry on with the issue, and the number is increasing year by year. And after all, are pictorials either necessary or unnecessary, detrimental to the prestige of our hobby? The arrival of so many beautiful examples of the stamp printer’s art has caused us to think seriously of the question, and we must confess that we are “betwixt two roads” so to speak, and for the moment we hesitate to continue on the path of the philatelic purist lest we should jeopardise the delights of the collector who finds his philatelic pleasure stored in the realms of ethnology, anthropology, archaeology, and all the other “ologies” as portrayed upon so many of the world’s postage stamps. We are inclined to believe that whether a stamp is necessary for postage or not, and whether it is worth sixpence or one halfpenny of this world’s goods, it is, nevertheless, of estimable philatelic value to the student.

Many of our advanced philatelists deprecate the collection of such stamps as we mention, on the grounds that they are not worth the paper they are printed upon. But we must maintain that their argument is groundless for we can mention thousands of very necessary stamps, which owing to the number printed are practically worthless. And yet they have not the philatelic attraction of many of the unnecessary stamps.

Taking everything into consideration it must be admitted that the pictorial stamps now obtainable have a great value to philately. How many young collectors are first attracted to the hobby by these beautiful issues? And how many would never have joined the ranks of our hobby had it not been for the splendor of those brightly colored stamps which adorn the outsides of packets displayed for sale by dealers?

The recent Spanish Red Cross stamps we must confess, are probably the finest examples of stamp engraving we have seen for some time, and are destined to attract very many young collectors to the folds of philately. Perhaps it is wrong to suggest that these stamps are unnecessary for they are issued for a good cause. Albeit, they, with many other recent issues of the same class should be welcomed as recruiting sergeants of our hobby. It is a complex question, this, and we do not expect our views to be accepted by all philatelists; nevertheless we feel certain that necessary or unnecessary the beautiful and sometimes gaudy philatelic productions of all countries do much to stimulate interest among the young collectors.—New Zealand Stamp Collector.

"HIGH FINANCE."—PART II.

The young blonde-bearded man, Waldheim Rauch, after passing the triumvirate, busy entertaining the ladies, took immediately a train for Berlin, and on arrival next morning went direct to the "Briefmarken-Grosshandel-Gesellschaft," and demanded to see the president. The errand boy, also in capacity as a usher view with suspicion, seeing a travel-stained excited man lugging a suspicious looking black camera. Rauch told him peremptorily "Get a move on. Tell him Rauch comes from Geneva." He had only shortly to wait, and the usher now very punctiously opens the door wide to the sanctum of the president. Rauch set the camera on the table, greeted the president, looked commanding at the usher, who took his time closing the door.

"Here I am," tapping his camera significantly, "with some important disclosure. Does the ten per cent commission hold good?"

"Why mention our agreement," impatiently answered the president. "Did I ever go back on a bargain?"

Without any further delay Rauch set the camera, on his face victory depicted, turned the knob to the concealed dictograph. The dictograph recorded the deal in Wurtemberg revenues. This left the president cold. When he heard a voice mentioned "A big deal," he got more attentive and listened to the words: "With what is in the hands of the Berlin archive, the wholesalers and various banks we can buy, or contrroll by option nearly \$5 p. c. of the milliarden issue of the inflation period. How we can———" The dictograph gave a whir and stopped. Rauch turned pale, and fumbled nervously with the machine. Not a sound came out of the dictograph.

"I took no time," crestfallen Rauch stammers, "hurried to the train and I———,"

"Stop, no excuse you failed. You should have looked after that battery. Renewed it. You lost your opportunity." Rauch picked up slowly his hat and moving towards the door. The president sat thinking.

"Hold on, Rauch," who got hold of the doorknob. "You made a botch, but the dictograph gave some information. Sit down by my side, and tell who the schemers are." Rauch did so. The president turned to his desk, wrote, then put a check and a letter in an envelope and sealed it. Then turned to the shaken Rauch.

"Rauch, you take this letter. It holds a check for 50,000 marks. I increased my bid on the remainders in the Berlin Archive. Make no other botch. Mum, is the word, and maybe you still earn a handsome reward."

Rauch's demeanor was far from bouyant, and the usher smiled in glee.

"Mister, what did the black box do to you?" Rauch's thought on how Victoria looked at his.

"Shut up, you impudent snipe," and out he went.

Gottleuba, the same morning, very crabby, was sputtering to his wife's talk.

"What difference does a day or two make? Victoria upstairs, trying to fix herself, look her best. You know well enough, that she promised to take a trip with Frontera on the lake. You grouch; only thinking of money. Get busy in your warehouse, but leave Victoria alone." With a fervent sigh: "My! What a distinguished man this Frontera is."

The door to the breakfast room opened and Victoria entered. Contrary to her parent's expectation only plainly but tastefully dressed.

"Victoria, is that the way to dress?" Gottleuba jumped up blustering. "To make an impression? Go back, and dress stylish. Obey me! Show you got a rich parent. How can you impress Frontera this way?"

Victoria, generally meek at the frequent outbursts of her father, hastened to obey, but somehow today she declines and opposed him.

"I know what is becoming. You want to sell me with your money schemes. All, in the bargain. Frontera is a polite man, different from you, dad, but will he make a good husband? I have to say——."

"No! You have nothing to say. I picked out a rich husband for you. A shrewd business man." He moved towards Victoria, domineering. "A daughter of mine does as I tell her." He had both arms raised, gesticulating wildly. Mother tried to passify him. He, with a final gesture of command grabbed his hat, murmuring to himself: "What got into her? Besides losing a whole day for what? No IF about it." As he went out the front door, he saw Frontera coming. His demeanor instantly changed and a *sauve* man greeted his co-partner in business.

"Victoria is waiting. Have a good time. She would not be a daughter of mine if she could not prove herself an entertaining guide."

Mother Gottleuba had opened the door, and effusively greeted Frontera, and he bowed politely to Victoria. Taking her in and his eyes showed admiration to her appearance. He was well pleased, making him all the more conspicuous..

Goliad Richmond attended the finish of the convention, then without further delay, indifferent to the scenery around Geneva, took the train to Munich. Saw the party, who held the Wurttemberg remainders, bought and shipped them to Gottleuba. At the same time took the opportunity to clean out another dealer of the better class—the errors and local printings of the milliarden issue, but shipped them under his wife's brother's name to England. Depleted of cash, but well pleased and to placate his irritated wife. For her no time to make feminine bargains for herself. No sightseeing. He finally let her buy at Paris the most gorgeous sealskin coat (at home \$50 cheaper). She is consoled, and at Havre they took the boat home.

Gottleuba infatigable got Frontera on edge. Gottleuba's energy is unbounded and they quickly check and have packed the contents of the warehouse, and empty them in several freight cars, billed to Hamburg, ready for departure. On the last afternoon of his stay Victoria had promised Frontera to show him the Musee Ariana. His lovemaking had not progressed as the vain man had desired, so arrived at the museum, and in a quiet corner he pressed the question. He really liked her and she had nothing against him. Only a vague feeling. She had heard of Waldheim's failure, still hoping. So she told Frontera her present refusal, but still leaving him hope. His vanity was hurt, and little said. Outside, she frankly offered her hand, he pressed it with sincerity and politely put her on a tram. She, instead of going home, visited a friend until late. Knowing, avoiding her father's wrath, that the two men would take the express that night on a business trip.

Gottleuba saw the clouded face. To his thinking only a temporally discomfiture. That his daughter could act contrary, never entered his mind.

At Berlin they parted. Frontera made the pretext, better personally superintend the shipment. From Hamburg Frontera telegraphed disquieting news from his firm in Beunos Aires. So gloomily Gottleuba had to let him go.

Filled with wrath toward Victoria; then business plans got the upper hand, and with a smile he entered the Berlin Archive, ready to take over in cash the remainders. Politely was told he was not the highest bidder any more, but he may see the Briefmarken-Grosshandel-Gesellschaft. Wherever he went he went he met resistance. Forced to pay spot cash from 2 to 13 times his option. Always told the B.-G.-G. made a better offer, so finally in desperation he sought the sanctum of the president. He was politely received by him. Both men sizing each other up.

"I have come," Gottleuba blurted out. "To close our deal." He held his checkbook in hand. "You agreed on 50,000." The president leaned over, twirling his thumbs.

"My dear Gottleuba, that was some time ago," purposely stopping, then continued, "but now my price is just double." Gottleuba jumped from his seat, intent on a scathing reply, but the president.

"Wait, till I have finished. Not alone that, you have to add a hundred thousand more to make me turn over my option on the milliarden issue remaining in the Berlin post office archive." Gottleuba got dumb. It got his goat. Did Richmond play him false. He dismisses this thought as unworthy.

"Gottleuba make up your mind," the president continued in even tone, "tomorrow I ask 25,000 more." Gottleuba controls himself. He sat down wrote the check out in full, held it in his hand.

"Under one condition you keep my name and this transaction from the rest of dealers," he holds the check, ready to tear it up.

"I promise," said the president. Gottleuba passed him his check. He knew his man. Gottleuba gave the necessary instruction and with a sigh departed. The president profound in courtesy had opened the door for him.

Going out of the building the young errand boy wiggles to his side. He knew Gottleuba from former visits.

"Like to know something about a visit?" asked the boy. Gottleuba never missed information, no matter how trivial.

"What visit?" accompanying with a few marks. "Come again," finally the greed is satisfied. He said:

"The blond man arrived with a camera, and later went to the Archive.

As struck by lightning, he recollected the blond bearded man with the camera on the balcony, and his passing them and him looking at Victoria. He beats his chest, gesticulating "Now I know that it was Rauch. Grew a beard since I fired him, being sweet on Vi. The very idea of that girl. Wait till I get hold of her, lock her up until she says 'Yes.'"

Next succeeding transactions came more his way. The president had kept his word. More amiable, still he had to gather up his resources. The first day had cost him near a million Swiss francs.

Coming back home, he found his wife and daughter gone. The maid in fear handed him the letter of his wife. She went to her sick sister and took Victoria along. At his office a telegram that Frontera was aboard. Alone all his energy was centered on coralling his venture, meeting ever increasing prices, and finds that Rauch got his hand in it. On top of all a communication comes that his friendly prime minister had been disposed. Gottleuba is furious, but used to opposition. He comes to the conclusion that Rauch was smarter than he and gave him credit.

"I have to locate him and buy him, or Victoria," frowning.

Third installment to follow. All rights reserved. OSAR THARTAM.

VOLCANO STAMP SWAYED HISTORY AND PLAYED A PART IN CANAL ROUTE DECISION.

Stamp collectors in this and foreign lands have been speculating on the possibility of an early issue of Nicaraguan stamps to commemorate in some way the recent difficulties in that country.

"Nicaragua has been one of the most modest of countries from a philatelic point of view," says the editor of Stamp Collecting of London. "In three years she has only sent us one new set of definitive stamps. The recent fighting between the Government forces and the rebel army may bring us an aftermath for our albums."

In 1882 Nicaragua joined the Postal Union and stamps of a new design were issued, depicting the arms of the republic on a triangular shield. In 1890 Nicholas F. Seebeck obtained the contract to print, free of cost, the stamps for Nicaragua and several other Central American republics, the countries to issue a new set every year and give to Mr. Seebeck all the remainders with the original dies and plates. This arrangement resulted in a flood of cheap stamps being issued, familiarly known by philatelists as "Seebecks," and they remain cheap to this day.

Mr. Seebeck died in 1899, and the next issue, brought out in 1900, became internationally celebrated, as it ultimately played an important part in the controversy over the canal route through Nicaragua as against Panama. The Nicaragua route had enlisted the support of President Roosevelt, and in 1901 the Isthmian Canal Commission reported against selecting Panama. In 1902 there was an eruption of Mont Pelee, which destroyed the City of St. Pierre on the Island of Martinique, and one week later an eruption of the old volcano, Momotomba, in Nicaragua, was reported. The canal question was then before the United States Senate, and the supporters of the Nicaragua route asserted there were no active volcanoes in the country and that the news was false.

"M. Bunau Varille," says Mr. Melville in describing the fatal effect which this 1900 issue of stamps had upon the canal aspirations of Nicaragua, "knew a little about stamps and remembered the design on the 1900 issue showing Momotomba in eruption and the population in flight. M. Bunau-Varilla bought enough of these stamps to send one to each senator with the note, 'An official witness of the volcanic activity of Nicaragua.' The senate passed the bill for the Panama route on June 19, 1902, and the treaty with Panama was signed in the following year.—New York Times. Sent by Miss Coriell.

LESSONS FROM POSTAGE STAMPS AND VALUE OF COLLECTING AS AID TO EDUCATION HAS BEEN PROVEN IN MANY LANDS.

The instructional interest of postage stamps is almost inexhaustible. Few aspects of general knowledge are untouched by the stamp collector. There is an indefinable fascination about a foreign stamp that at once stirs the imagination, so that by intelligent association of the designs upon the stamps with the countries whence they emanate a new interest is imparted to lessons, not merely in geography and history, but in a score of allied subjects.

The value of stamp collecting as an aid to education has been proved in many countries, although our own scholastic authorities have been slow to adopt the system. Yet there is really nothing new in the idea. As far back as the sixties of the last century French pedagogues encouraged their pupils to "graingerize" their atlases with foreign stamps as a means of stimulating

their interest in geography, and it was in this way that the first stamp album is said to have been evolved.

The commercial geography of the British Empire, for instance, can be effectively illustrated by selected specimens of British Colonial postage stamps. A pineapple and a conch shell introduced into the design of the stamps of the Bahamas prove that "rum-running" is not the only industry of those islands. The former is exported (in cans) to the United States, whilst the shells are also put to commercial use after the fish has been extracted and eaten by the natives, who esteem it a delicacy. A branch of sugar cane appearing upon the 1912 series of Barbados symbolizes the staple industry of the oldest British possession in the West Indies. Some of the early Canadian stamps show a beaver in its native haunts, having reference to the fur trade of the great northwest. Maple leaves find place in more recent designs, and serve to remind us of the national tree, valued for its wood and its sap alike. Tea, the chief product of Ceylon's Indian isle, is denoted by branches of the tea plant which surround the head of the late King Edward upon the 2 cent stamp of that series.

The borders of the present Jamaican stamps illustrate a number of products of the Isle of wood and water. Banana trees in full bearing, which flank the central vignette of the 2d stamp stand for what is today the most valuable article of export. Be it noted that they grow upwards and are never quite "straight." The frame of the 3d includes pineapples, another fruit, that is extensively cultivated. Clusters of oranges hang down on either side of the 4d denomination, as further witness to the fertility of the colony, whilst coco-nut palms figure upon the 1s.

Mauritius includes in the quarterings of its arms as reproduced upon its modern postage stamps branches of the sugar cane, which is its main source of revenue. A portrait of the French Governor Labourdonnais, who first introduced the cultivation of sugar into the island, may be seen upon a special stamp issued in honor of the bicentenary of his birth in December, 1899.

From the Pacific island of Nauru come phosphates in large quantities and the current postage stamps depict one of the steamers of the company engaged in working these valuable deposits lying off the coast. Newfoundland, Britain's oldest colony, has for many years advertised her industries and resources upon her postage stamps. A codfish and a group of seals represent the important fisheries, whilst lumbering and mining are likewise the subjects of pictorial postage stamps issued thirty years ago. Finally we have a view of the paper mills at Grand Falls—Newfoundland's latest and greatest enterprise.—London Times.

What is collecting after all? Whether viewed from the standpoint of pleasure in the accumulation of stamps and covers or in the amassing of financial gain, is it not merely a hobby! Whatever it may be, the question of what one is to collect should not be dictated by the few individuals wrapped up in classicals and rarities; crack plates, cancellations and other phases of collecting. Airmails have certainly won their place in the world of philately and therefore have incurred the jealousies of those who discriminated against them. Such comments as "made to order," "controlled by a dealer more progressive than the next," etc., will never belittle the hobby.—Roesslers

If you are not blind, deaf, dumb or bankrupt, join the happy throng of stamp collectors.—Sparks.

HUNTING: THE LURE OF THE CHASE IS PHILATELIST'S ROMANCE

Only the true and ardent philatelist can realize the charm of this occupation—the hunting from shop to shop for “Finds.” By this I do not mean walking down the Strand and delving into every shop which has its front window beautifully adorned with stamps, valuable and otherwise, but the old Curiosity and “Job-lot” shops which one finds down narrow and dirty streets in the different cities.

The ardent searcher often enters through a dingy doorway into a tiny room lit by a single gas jet. Cobwebs and dust lie thick on everything, but this only increases the collector's excitement, as the door at the back opens and an old woman shuffles out.

He timorously wishes her “Good morning,” and enquires if she has any old collections of stamps for sale.

Sometimes, in place of the usual “No,” the collector sees her hesitate, and his heart starts madly pounding against his side. She thinks a minute, and then answers as follows:

“I believe we have some put away somewhere,” “or “My husband used to collect some years ago.”

Eagerly you wait while she makes her way over to the darkest corner of the shop and pokes away amongst a huge pile of rubbish.

Your heart starts to sink as the minutes tick on in silence, except for occasional ejaculations such as: “Well, I know they're somewhere,” or “My husband might have thrown them away.”

“Here it is, sir,” she croaks at last, and brings over an old school exercise book.

[With maddening deliberation she hunts around for a duster and wipes the cobwebs off.

Eager to learn your fate, you seize it and open it at random. Sometimes it contains nothing but a few hundred U. S., King George and King Edward halfpennies and pennies. Sometimes it contains a general collection of the schoolboy type, worth nothing to the collector. Sometimes, however, the heart of the philatelist ceases to beat for a moment as he displays in the dusty book a complete sheet of early Lubeck stamps, or a page of 1869 Transvaal, First Republic unused. She tells you that her grandfather or father brought them back when he returned to settle down in England from abroad.

You pay her the price she asks, give her a generous tip, and go in search of fresh discoveries. And so the glorious chase continues.—Stamp Lover.

STEPPING STONES TO SUCCESS.

Writing on hobbies in a Vancouver paper, Mr. Will H. Gray says: “The more hobbies a fellow has the better, for they will help him to find out what he will like to do best when he starts to earn. Besides that, many hobbies can be made profitable, and most parents are willing to lend a hand when they see that progress is being made and the subject, whatever it is, studied in real earnest. Some people may think that hobbies do not help in after life, but the boy who knows stamps so well that you couldn't fool him with a watermark or perforation difference between a valuable stamp and a worthless one will also be smart enough not to be fooled with an inferior article when he is buyer for a big business investing thousands in stock.”—Stamp Collecting.

A STAMP FAIR.

If the stamp trade were more organized for propaganda and development, nothing would better conduce to the growth of business than the holding of an annual stamp show in London and other big centers. We do not suggest that such shows should follow on the lines familiar in connection with the great philatelic exhibitions, but rather that the stamp dealers themselves should meet annually in open and friendly rivalry in a Stamp Fair. In competitions the dealers, large and small, could put up a show not less attractive to the visitor than the collectors put up in their big competition exhibitions. The fact that the exhibits, or a large portion of them, were for sale would be an additional attraction to visiting philatelists.

There is no doubt that the Motor, Photo and countless other trade shows enjoy a very large measure of popularity, and serve to consolidate and expand the business. The wireless enthusiast picks up his newest ideas at the Radio trade shows, and learns more than he can from the shop windows of main street.

We have nursed the notion of a Stamp Trade Show, or "Stamp Fair," these many years; it will come in the fullness of time, when dealers are less insular and more ready to recognize the power of combined effort. If, for one glorious week each year, all the established dealers of London displayed their most tempting items under one roof, together with the leading dealers from the provinces, we are confident collectors would flock to see the show; they would travel from far and near, and would be well rewarded for their trouble in the interest of the show and the opportunities of adding to their collections.

An annual event of this kind would be a magnificent advertisement for the trade as a whole, an inexpensive advertisement which would reap quick and lasting returns. It would open the eyes of the uninitiated public to the vast business done in stamps for collectors, and it would serve to give added confidence to the philatelic investor in the stability and permanence of philately.—Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly. Why not at A. P. S. conventions. Annual coin meeting does.

GENERAL COLLECTING.—By H. A. Stephenson.

My object is to enlist encouragement for the general collector, who is the backbone of the hobby, and to ensure his retaining his interest.

Bear in mind the beginner deciding to collect. It is almost a foregone conclusion that someone foists upon him one of those cheap albums with pages ruled in large squares.

Numberless pages will remain empty, others will become overcrowded with dismal row upon row of stamps, issues of various dates all crammed together and overflowing to pages labelled for a different country.

If contemplation of that unsightly mess does not choke him he will probably turn to one of the printed and spaced albums.

This is a great advance; there are spaces for every stamp he has got and all those he has not got and never will have.

In transferring his collection to the new album he finds several quaint letters of different sizes and well off center. The whole page looks disappointing and far from the attractive display he had pictured.

Then comes the writing up; never very good at printing, he gets the stamps for which his album gives him no printed space. This is a bit of a

disappointment, but he "sticks them in" somewhere. Next he comes to a lot of current issues for which his album gives him no room at all, except at the end of the book.

At the same time he finds lots of spaces for expensive old issues, repeated over and over again, for differences of watermark, which cannot be seen unless the stamps are mounted back to front, and differences of perforation which have to be carefully measured to be diagnosed.

He will struggle manfully with this new disappointment, but sooner or later the blank album begins to make its appeal to him with its tempting "collect what you like" slogan.

Full of hope once more, the beginner secures a blank album and starts to transfer his collection. But mounting the first page is a staggering blow: measuring, spacing, arranging, re-arranging, and finally getting them mounted, only to find that they are not symmetrical.

At the present time, although forming the majority, he is discouraged at every turn, principally owing to want of a suitable album, and he is driven to either abandoning the hobby or into the ranks of the single country or group collector, finally losing his interest altogether.

Sadly disillusioned he decides that mounting a general collection in a blank album is a task well beyond his powers, and one more general collector is lost to the hobby.

No written-up page of stamps can compare for neatness and attractiveness with a well set out printed page and, unless one is satisfied with haphazard methods, the mounting of a general collection of any size in a blank album is an impossibility.

The ideal is therefore a loose-leaf printed and special album, with one or more issues to a page and with blank pages for shades, pairs, strips, blocks, provisionals and curiosities.

Such an album should be purchasable in single pages, so that the collector could buy pages for the issues for which he had the stamps and leave the other pages until he required them.

New pages to take new issues could be published from time to time, printed and spaced, and thus enable the collector to keep his album always up to date.

By means of an album such as this, the general collector could keep his collection within bounds by drastic simplification and at the same time include any special issues and varieties for which he had a fancy.

Such an album would set out a collection to the very best advantage and leave sufficient scope for the initiative of any individual collector.

It would serve the purpose of the general collector of all grades, be he beginner, medium or advanced, as well as the single country or group enthusiast.

Is it too much to hope that one day we shall see such an album published?—Stamp Collecting.

KNOW YOUR HOBBY.

The collector who fails to read the literature of his hobby cannot fully appreciate the fascination of stamps.

Valuable information often is found in one catalogue which is not contained in another. From specially written hand books data may be obtained which lead to advantageous purchases.

STAMP COLLECTING FOR GIRLS.

Girls, as a rule, do not take so kindly to stamp collecting as boys, though there are some who are very keen on it, and the hobby is certainly deserving of encouragement.

Not only can it become a fascinating pastime, but it will eventually lead to the establishment of a useful "nest egg," which in after years may be exceedingly welcome; for stamps, provided that good specimens only are collected, often increase in a few years to many times their original value, and can be turned into cash at any time if the need arises. In any case, a good collection constitutes an interesting and valuable heirloom to hand down to succeeding generations.

A Suggestion.

At some school, stamp collecting is taboo, because the custom of "swapping" has sometimes led to disputes. If a rule be made that all exchanges shall take place on the basis of catalogue values all trouble of this kind can be avoided. A certain hour—say once a week—can be set apart for these transactions, and it would not be much trouble for a mistress to be in charge to see that everything is satisfactory.

It goes without saying that girls should never be allowed to purchase stamps sent on approval by dealers unless the business can be supervised by some person who possesses the requisite knowledge of these matters. In most cases, perhaps, the buying would best be left to parents.—*Liverpool Courier*!

THE HUNGARIAN PARLIAMENT.

The Houses of Parliament at Budapest are depicted on several of the stamps of Hungary; hence many readers of the *Daily Chronicle* must have been interested in the particulars published in that paper regarding the ceremonial opening of that splendid pile of buildings. "Standing in stately majesty by the 'Blue Danube,' Hungary's Westminster is certainly the finest building among the Parliaments of the Continent," says the *Chronicle*. "It was completed in 1902, having cost nearly £1,500,000 and taken seventeen years to build. . . . There is nothing gaudy or heavy about the splendor of its architecture; everything is artistic to the highest degree. In frescoes, pictures, coats of arms, and statues (there are nearly 200 of the latter) the thousand years of Hungarian history is told. The central cupola is 320 feet in height—or not quite as lofty as the dome of St. Paul's—and the total length of the building is nearly 900 feet. Before the south facade stands a great statue of Count Julius Andrassy, the Hungarian statesman, who died in 1890; and one of the reliefs on it represents the meeting of the Berlin Congress in 1878, Lord Beaconsfield and Lord Salisbury being prominent and life-like figures."

Interesting facts worth recording in the stamp album.—*Stamp Collecting*.

The question what to buy, and how much to give. This is where a knowledge of Philately comes in and makes stamp collecting a real art. For sometimes a good price might be given for a stamp, and yet it may be cheap. Many stamps catalogued in a catalogue at, we will say, \$1 might be really worth only 50c, while again the full amount might be paid and still be cheap. As in everything, so in Philately, the law of supply and demand operates to a large extent.

PHILATELY IN WALL STREET

Establishment in the National City Bank of a department through which employees interested may satisfy their desires in collection of stamps from all over the world emphasizes the worldwide activities of the bank and recognizes the steady expansion of the hobby of philately. Time was when stamp collecting was usually regarded as a boy's fancy; that's the way it generally starts and often ends. But a substantial part of stamp gathering youths continue to collect the elusive little engravings as mature men. That it is not to be regarded as only a boy's hobby is indicated by the fact that more than 18,000 varieties were issued throughout the world in the 19th century, more than 23,000 in the first twenty years of the 20th century and that one could hand out more than \$100 a year currently in acquiring only the new issues. Except for the sons of wealthy families, few boys are situated to spend so much a year to keep abreast of the game without allowing for purchase of the 41,000 existing prior to 1921, many of which sell for thousands. For instance, a 4-cent British Guiana stamp, issued in 1856, sold in 1922 for \$36,585. One New York banker, who has a valuable collection, has his eye on a collection made by a woman, now well along in years, who gathered them in her younger days when living in South America. He expects to obtain them on her demise through a mutual friend; when he meets the latter his first remark invariably is: "Isn't that old lady dead yet!"—Wall St. Journal.

ADVERTISING CANCELLATIONS—By M. Sorensen.

Calgary, Alta., Canada, Santa Claus with parcel, in upper right hand corner, in 2 line: MAIL EARLY. And in 4 lines in square to right: BE SURE YOUR GIFTS ARRIVE IN TIME.

Vancouver, B. C., Canada, in 4 lines: ICE CARNIVAL COMMUNITY SERVICE VANCOUVER DECEMBER 17TH.

Vancouver and other offices in Canada, in 5 lines: BUY A DOMINION GOVERNMENT ANNUITY ASK POSTMASTER FOR BOOKLET.

Montreal, Que., Canada: Santa Claus with parcel. In upper right hand corner: MAIL EARLY. in 1 line, and in French in 3 lines: DEPOSEZ DE BONNE HEURE. In square to right, in 3 lines: BE SURE YOUR GIFTS ARRIVE IN TIME, with the equivalent in French, also in 3 lines.

Malta post offices, in 3 lines: FOR YOUR HEALTH SPEND YOUR WEALTH IN SUNNY MALTA.

Stockholm, Sweden, in 1 wave line: OPPNA POSTGIRO KONTO.

The stamp collectors of New York city have recently opened a new club building on West Forty-eighth street. They have a philatelic library on the top floor and pleasant club rooms and offices for members who engage in collecting and selling stamps. A humble citizen explained not long ago that he liked to live in New York because after one learns the ropes he is able to find inexpensive quarters, cheap and abundant markets and the friendship of a small circle of specialists in any field in which he is interested. This sort of life is both economical and satisfying and goes far toward making up for the disadvantages connected with life in so crowded a center. The trouble with the average person is that he has neither the ability nor the inclination to pick out these choice morsels in metropolitan existence. The stamp folks have solved the problems for themselves apparently in agreeable fashion.—Lincoln Journal.

**DENVER MAN MAKES EUROPEAN SEND \$38,000 TO U. S. FOR
STAMP COLLECTION.**

A reversal of the procedure which takes American dollars to Europe for curiosities and antiques, has brought a fortune of \$38,000 from Vienna to the door of a poor man—August Lutteken of Denver. This is the price a Vienna stamp dealer has agreed to pay for Lutteken's collection of stamps, after the latter demurred and said he got pleasure from collecting them rather than from money.

The collection includes about 250,000 catalogued and mounted stamps, mostly those of the United States, but including one book of stamps of foreign countries.

Lutteken is 68 years old, and since he was 15 has followed the hobby. He acquired many of the stamps during 18 years of service in the British navy. His wife also is a proficient philatelist.—Sent by H. D. Allen, Boston.

A WOMAN COLLECTOR.

A young lady being the owner of a fine stamp collection was very proud of same and spoke of her stamps quite often. A friend asked her one day to bring her album with her some time when she came over. The next day the young lady picked up her album and started to visit her friend. On the way she met a young man she knew and they stopped to talk a while. At last he said, "What is the book you have under your arm?" She answered, "That is my stamp album." He said, "May I look at your stamps?" She answered, "I will be very glad to show them to you." He was interested in stamps especially the 1869 issue and when he saw those he mentioned their beauty. But when he looked at the 1869 90 cent Lincoln he uttered the familiar ejaculation of today, "Oh boy!" The young lady smiled sweetly as she said, "Why he was not a boy. That is the likeness of Abraham Lincoln, one time president of the U. S. A."

QUEENLY COLLECTORS.

One thing the Queen of the Belgians did during her recent "call" at Buckingham Palace was making a point of seeing the latest acquisition to the King's stamp album. Commenting thereupon, the Chronicle remarks: "The King's collection is a wonderful one, containing many specimens bought with money 'saved up' for the purpose during his boyhood. It is not known so generally, however, that Queen Elizabeth is an equally ardent collector, while another royal philatelist is the Queen of Italy. Not long ago the Queen of the Belgians obtained as complete a set as possible of Belgian stamps and sent them to the other Queen collector."—Stamp Collecting.

MALTA GOVERNMENT NOTICE.

It is hereby notified that the stamp of the value and of the description as given below and valid for postage purposes only will be issued tomorrow.

10s Denomination. Bearing the inscription "Patronus Melitae" and a vignette reproduction of the Statue of St. Paul by the Maltese Sculptor Gafa, existing in the Collegiate Parish Church of St. Paul Shipwrecked, in Valletta. The stamp is printed on white paper, vignette black in red border.

February 8, 1927. ENRICO MIZZI, Ministers for Industry and Commerce.

By the time you receive this letter the remaining values of the new set (i. e. 1d, 2d, 2½d and 3d) will have been issued.—Sent by Cocclind.



BOILED DOWN

ORIGINAL OR OTHERWISE

The man who has a hobby is "Happy in His Home." So are coin and stamp collectors.

Collectors with a persistency a mile thick will make the best collections. Many ministers are ardent stamp collectors . . . their calling should make them expert in handling "pairs."

Novel use of a collector's trophies; a portrait of Hans Lagerlof of Sweden done entirely in stamps.

It is claimed the highest value in pence with Queen Victoria's picture is the 18 pence of the country of Victoria issued in 1889.

What made you start coin and stamp collecting?

It's the "Go-Getting" type of collectors with enough stamina and stuff that laughs at the heat of summer and collects every day in the year. These are the collectors who don't miss the Summer-Pickings.

The Bible is the only book which is never off the press.

Leave it to Herman Boers to think up nifties. He sends us a letter from Valentine, Nebraska on February 14.

More than 45,000 standard varieties of postage stamps are being issued in the world today.

Why not form a coin collectors and stamp club in your neighborhood. Tell us about it.

There are no momentary pauses for the collector who keeps on quietly collecting during the summer, but there are neither so many empty spaces for him.

A good ad in a good publication always pays. An honest, fair trial for three issues in this publication will prove it.

The stamps of the United States of America provide a prolific field for research and discovery.

The price that we ask for our space makes it, when you consider our circulation. **THE BIGGEST BUY IN STAMPS ADVERTISED IN THE WORLD.**

As few of us are able to read Russian we presume that the inscriptions on Bolshevic stamps must be taken as re(a)d.

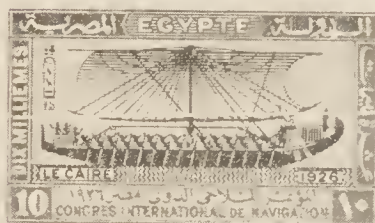
A stamped envelope used in the trans-Atlantic air post by the airship R. 34 in 1919 realized \$85 in London.

Denmark.—Perhaps it's good to know that Denmark No. 174 the 20 ore red had been in use only a few months when the new set appeared.

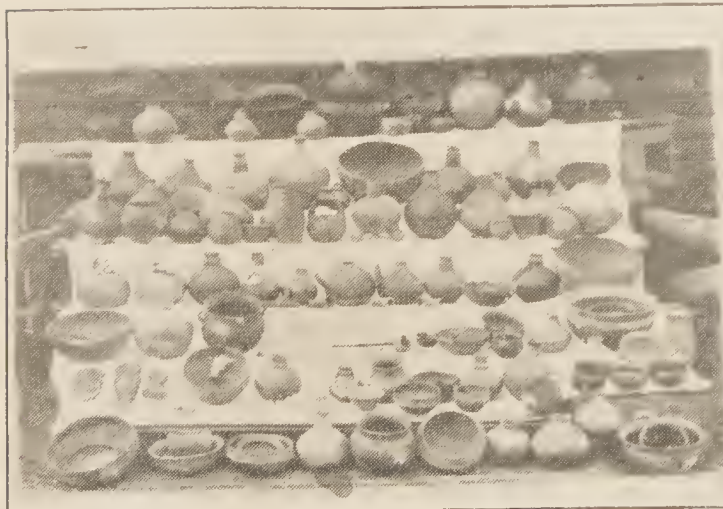
At least, there's one American book which is very popular in Europe—Uncle Sam's pocketbook.

Send us the Notes at any time. Let West know what is going on. The little collector items are of interest to all.

General collecting is much more prevalent than some people believe. It is a subject we will welcome further discussion of. We believe that it is the backbone of the hobby.



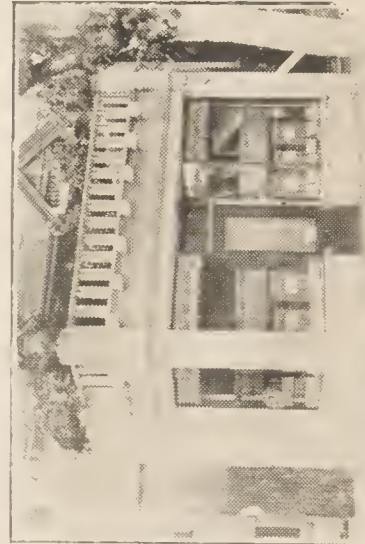
NEW ISSUES FROM BULLETIN OF ECONOMIST CO., NEW YORK CITY



Arkansas Indian Pottery, State University Collection,
Found in Yell County, Arkansas.

Some Rare Firearms.
Carnes of Texas.
See His Ads.

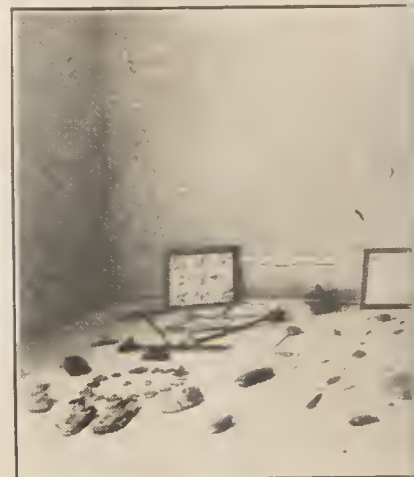
OUR ILLUSTRATIONS



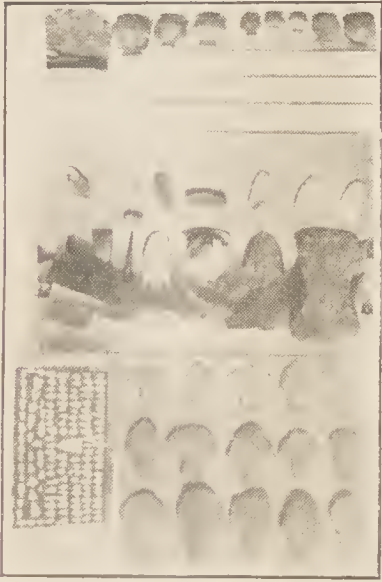
Original Stamp and Coin Shop. See Ads.



C. A. Phildius and Two Sons of N



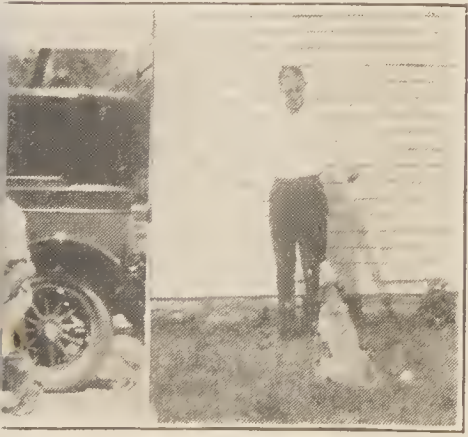
TIONS



Sent by Daniels. Shows some of his Stemmed Hoes, Bird Points and Maya Indian Pottery. See his ads.



Sold by Walpole Galleries, New York.



York City Daniels of Arkansas.





SOLD BY WALPOLE GALLERIES, NEW YORK

NUMISMATICS



Of all antiquities coins are the smallest, yet as a class, the most authoritative in record, and the widest in range. No history is so unbroken as that which they tell; no geography so complete; no art so continuous in sequence; nor so broad in extent; no mythology so ample and so various. Unknown kings, lost towns, forgotten divinities, new schools of art, have here their authentic record.

Please send us notes and clippings on coins, coinage, currency, medals, etc. We will appreciate such a favor and give credit for all that is sent. In co-operating with us in this way you will help make the contents of our department more interesting. M. SORENSON, 1923-C AVE., EAST, CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA.

Frequently items of interest to numismatists are to be found in current literature. Just now Peter B. Kyne's novel "The Understanding Heart" runs as a serial in the press. In the installment for yesterday I found the following: "They (Uncle Charley and Ash Dale) spelled each other the rest of that winter and in the spring when they settled their minin' argument by tossin' a coin, Monica's father won."

"He always won." Monica, realizing she was expected to respond, looked up from her task. "After father was dead Uncle Charley found two coins in his pocket. One had to heads on it and the other two tails. Father had them made especially for the adjustment of arguments with Uncle Charley, and when Uncle Charley found these coins he went straight over to the cemetery and cursed my father."

When I read this little item I happened to think that Ash Dale was not the only person who has had such coins made. Now and then I receive inquiries from collectors who have similar coins, either with two heads or two tails, and they invariably think they have made great finds, and begin to rave about "mint errors," "miss-strikes," etc. In this connection it is worth remembering that the U. S. mints never let any "errors" get into circulation. This is not saying that errors are not to be found, but they are not floating around among the loose cash in the country. Whenever a coin with two heads or two tails is found, it is pretty safe to guess that it is two halves welded together for the same purpose Ash Dale had had his two coins made.

A reader of "West" has very kindly sent me a page from "The New York Herald Tribune," containing some fine reproductions of "Medals that old Father Knickerbocker has worn." The medals are from the collection of I. S. Seidman, and commemorate events of local and national importance, such as laying of the first Atlantic cable in 1858; centennial in 1883 for evacuation of New York by the British, Nov. 25, 1783; opening of the Erie canal in 1825; the Statue of Liberty, 1886; the Brooklyn suspension bridge, 1884; the Egyptian Obelisk, presented to the city by the Khedive of Egypt in 1877, etc. There are several others equally interesting, and I want to assure the sender that his thoughtful kindness is fully appreciated. It is just such little acts that stimulate a poor editor into doing his best.

The domestic coinage made during the fiscal year ended June 30, 1926, consisted of \$64,315,565 in gold, \$19,183,178 in silver, and \$5,115,675 in minor coins, a total of \$88,614,418, represented by \$372,171,282 pieces, which com-

compares with the prior year's total domestic coinage of \$278,610,944, represented by 190,443,558 pieces. Each of the three coinage mints, at Philadelphia, San Francisco and Denver, made gold, silver and minor coins. The demand for nickels and cents was again in evidence, nearly 302,000,000 pieces having been made as compared with 111,000,000 during last year and 160,000,000 during the next preceding year. The gold coinage was consequently materially reduced (by about 70 per cent). The number of silver dollars executed totaled 11,432,700, and subsidiary silver coins 54,479,756 pieces, each of the three mints contributing thereto. In addition to the above the mints struck 16,676,000 pieces foreign coins as follows: 40,000 pieces in gold for Costa Rica and Guatemala, 6,230,000 pieces of silver for Poland, Guatemala, Venezuela and Peru and 10,406,000 pieces in nickel for Salvador and Peru. A grand total of 388,847,282 pieces of coin as the output for 1926 compares with 203,166,558 pieces during the prior year.

A MUSEUM OF REAL ROMANCE.

A plea for the creation of more and smaller museums was made the other day by Sir Robert Witt, chairman of the National Art Collections Fund.

Such a museum as he had in mind is to be opened in the little town of Haselmere in Surrey on August 27 by the Earl of Midleton.

* * * * *

In a delightful English old manor house in the High-street will be found a science and history museum, so arranged that each small section gives the history of a century by means of objects characteristic of the period. The collection was made by the late Sir Jonathan Hutchinson, and his trustees have given \$5,000 towards the cost of the museum on condition of it being open to the public.

In another room will be the collection of peasant art made by the Rev. Gerald S. Davies, Master of the Charterhouse, E.C. The objects in this collection come from the countries of Northern Europe, and were made by the peasant with his own hands, in his own home, and for his own use. They speak across the centuries, telling the romance of far-off lands and days, the story of peasant life, its customs and manners, its aspirations and its art.

Of special interest is the unique collection of mangle-boards, of which every lad was by custom bound to carve one for his future bride. These, delicately carved and inscribed, washed the clothes, beautified the home, bore the family records, and became its heirlooms.

One coming from Denmark, bears in the original carving the date 1573; a later carving is 1759 and in painting is the date 1820. It brings a vision of the mother laying it down, of her daughter finding in it a symbol and an inspiration till she too comes to pass it on.

Another, small and light, was tenderly carved to be the plaything of a little child.

* * * * *

At the back of the museum is a restful garden, with soft grass and grand old trees. Here the visitor will be able to gather up his impressions, and, in its simple dignity, to find a spirit in tune with that sheltered in the museum.

BURNS LETTER BRINGS \$850.

New York.—A letter by Robert Burns, Scotch poet, to his brother, discussing the evils of garrulity brought \$850 at a sale here.

WERE THESE UNCLE SAM'S "FIRST" GREENBACKS?

One of Galesburg, Ill., papers describes the town of Carrollton in that state, by Lester B. Colby.

"Uncle Sam's first \$5 bill is owned in Illinois. Its serial is No. 1, issue of 1862. I saw it the other day in Carrollton. It is the property of the Greene County State Bank. Stuart E. Pierson, cashier, showed it to me and told me the story.

"David E. Pierson, the grandfather, I believe, was a friend of Abraham Lincoln. When the first issue of greenbacks was printed in 1862 David E. Pierson was in Washington. When he returned to Carrollton he carried with him the first two hundred \$5 bills issued by the United States treasury department.

"Those two hundred bills, still intact, are the property of the bank. Fancy prices have been offered for them by collectors, but not one of them has ever been sold. Except that they are browned a bit at the edges, they are about as fresh and clean as any new dollar bill you can get from your bank in spite of the sixty-five years that have passed over them."—Numismatist.

Coin collecting has a peculiar fascination for those who engage in it and it is one of the most sensible hobbies that a person can take up. It is a clean, entertaining hobby that has an educational value and which the young can cultivate, as well as the old.

Parents who complain because their children do not spend more of their time home, might induce them to do so if they would interest them in coin collecting and give them a start for a collection. There is a saying that he who is once a coin collector is always a coin collector, and there must be truth in the saying. At any rate, many of the best known collectors in this country are men far advanced in life and a considerable number of them confess that they have been collecting ever since they were boys.—Rochell Star.

"We collectors strive to make converts; we want others to enjoy what we enjoy; and I may as well confess that the envy shown by our fellow collectors when we display our treasures is not annoying to us. But, speaking generally, we are a bearable lot, our hobbies are usually harmless, and if we loathe the subject of automobiles, and especially discussion relative to parts thereof, we try to show an intelligent interest in another's hobby, even if it happen to be a collection of postage stamps. Our own hobby may be, probably is, ridiculous to someone else, but in all the wide range of human interest, from postage stamps to paintings,—the sport of the millionaire,—there is nothing that begins so easily and takes us so far as the collecting of books."—Mekeels.

Book Scout says: If offering books to a dealer remember that the poor devil has to pay for advertising, stamps, catalogues, rent, pork and beans, etc. He can't pay the top market price and stay in business. If you have private collectors soak 'em but give the dealer a little margin of profit. Asking for bids on a book is either a confession of ignorance or an attempt to get a free appraisal. If possible price all offerings. In asking for offers you may be sincerely ignorant but you put yourself in the class of a whole lot who are not.

Numismatic Notes

According to government statistics the United States treasury department has minted 2,611,500 \$20 gold pieces in the year ended June 30, 1926. The total gold coinage issued in the year \$64,315,565, which is added to the \$128,000,000 in circulation in 1925. A year ago, the estimated value of the gold in the country was \$4,500,000,000 held in the treasury and the banks. In 1924, the government coined \$206,000,000. The increase in coinage in the last two years is due to the quantities of gold received in the United States since the war. In 1917 only \$16,000 was made into money and in 1918 and 1919 none at all. The treasury was saving the precious yellow metal as do all governments in time of war. World production of gold now amounts, on the average, to \$390,000,000 annually, which was exactly the figure in 1924. More than half this production is in Africa. The United States, Canada and Mexico combined yielded \$92,000,000 in 1925. Of all the world gold available for financial equilibrium, the United States now has a very comfortable balance.

Holds \$30 Bill Issued in 1778; Legal Tender.

New Britain, Conn.—A bona fide \$30 bill is held by Bernard L. Hoppe of this city. Local banking houses pronounce it authentic, and Hoppe has refused many times its face value. The note, dated September 26, 1778, and signed by "A. Lawrence, Secretary of the United States Treasury," is numbered 217,305. It is about one-fourth the size of a modern one dollar bill. Bankers say it is still legal tender.

Dime of '76 and Other Relics Found in Ball.

Tulare—A dime of the mintage of 1876 was among the relics uncovered when the ball from the flagstaff of the old Tulare Grammar School, which is being rebuilt, was recently opened.

Other relics found in the ancient ball were valentines, notes, letters, locks of hair and hair ribbon.

The letters show that the ball was closed and placed upon the flagstaff in 1885.

Bad Coins Melted—Bank at West Chester Uses Plumber's Pot for Work.

West Chester, Pa.—The First National Bank of this place, destroyed its "no account money" today in a novel way. The money, made up of all denominations from one cent piece up to a half dollar, which represents a collection of bad coins, for several years was taken by Barton Keech, an employee of the bank, across the street to the court house steps, where a plumber was working, filling in cracks in the pillars with lead and deposited the coins in his lead melter.

In a few moments practically all of the coins were melted with the exception of those which contained a portion of silver, but were judged not being good enough for circulation. The amount destroyed represented several hundred dollars.

Greek Kings Adorned Gold With Silver.

London.—Fifty centuries ago gold was embellished with silver because the latter was considered more valuable than gold, says the annual report

of Montagu & Company, bullion experts, who point out that in a royal tomb discovered at Denda in Greece, were found vessels of gold chased in silver. The tomb predated 3000 B. C.

"The composition of these vessels," says the circular, "confirms the statement of Agatharcidels (181-145 B. C.) that some 30 centuries before his day 10 ounces of gold were worth one ounce of silver; for these gold articles were adorned with silver."—Kigas.

"Three-Penny" May Go—British Consider Withdrawing Small Sixteenth-Century Coin.

London.—The silver "three-penny" pieces which came into existence about the time of Queen Elizabeth, may be withdrawn from circulation in favor of a larger coin of nickel worth one-hundredth part of the pound sterling.

"Three-penny" silver pieces are very small and often get lost, but there is a sentimental value about them and in many churches they form the bulk of the coin in collection plates.

Medals For Mothers.

London.—Dr. W. Maloney, member of the Australian House of Representatives, has presented nine mothers with gold medals to celebrate the birth of a seventh child to each mother.

Ten souvenir copper cents issued in 1867 by the Washington chapter of the Knights Templar were found recently by Howard Hays, Missouri Pacific fireman, while going through his belongings. With the copper pieces was a receipt book, some of the stubs being signed with the name, W. I. Williams.

New Paper for Bills.

Our paper money is to be made tougher, and last twice as long. The Bureau of Standards announced completion of tests of currency paper extending back over several months, declaring that "the results of the experimental tests have been applied in commercial production, and currency paper double the strength of that previously in use is now being received."

The tests were instituted because of the concern of treasury officials over the rapid wear of paper currency and the increasing expenditure necessary for replacement of worn currency.

Boils Ink Off Bill.

Dayton, Ky.—When Mrs. M. Hill of Dayton washes her husband's overalls again, she is going to look in the pockets. The last time she did it she boiled them in a strong soda solution and discovered that she had removed all the ink from a piece of paper that bore a strange resemblance to money. Experts at the Treasury Department at Washington declared it was a five dollar bill and sent a new one to Mrs. Hill.

The term "Dixie" for the south originated from a bank note issued by a New Orleans bank in early days, according to an answered question in this week's Liberty. These notes were printed in French and English and bore the French word for ten, "Dix." They became known as "Dixies," and the south as Dixieland.

Coin of First Roman Republic Weighs Half Pound.

About eight inches in circumference, a coin which was in circulation as

long ago as the days of the first Roman republic has been found in the suburbs of Rome and is now in the possession of a New York jeweler. It is of metal closely resembling gold and, despite the wear of time, the figures on each side have not been obliterated beyond tracing.

Dollar signs on goods have appeared for the first time in the shopping districts frequented by tourists in London.

Mrs. Laura Gardin Fraser, famous sculptor, is the only woman ever commissioned to design coins for the United States Government.

Roman coins tell the story of the country in a striking way. The early Constantine coins disclose the classic heathen gods; after his conversion the coins bear the symbol of the cross.

Matches and postage stamps are used for small purchases in some parts of Manchuria where copper coins are scarce.

OLD RELICS FILL CABIN—IS RARE DISPLAY OF ANTIQUES.

Magnolia, Iowa.—The State Historical society had better look to its laurels for the managers and promoters of the Memorial Log Cabin association here are fast becoming rivals of the state, and the log cabin, which is soon to be dedicated to the memory of the pioneers of western Iowa, is becoming a storehouse of marvelous mementoes of the early period in Iowa's history.

It was proposed by the group of men and women who planned the construction of the log cabin, to fill it with objects of interest, so that it would meet with success, but it has gone far beyond their most ardent hopes or expectations.

The latest addition to the relics in the cabin is a candlestick more than two centuries old. It was given or loaned to the society by Mrs. William Shundlmeier. The candlestick was brought from England. A companion piece is an old candle snuffer, which W. H. Surber has donated. He also presented a bootjack over 100 years old. The bootjack works like a spring, and few of the present generation have ever seen one like it.

Mrs. J. L. McKenna of Union, Ore., sent for the cabin a home-made rolling pin of walnut, which was in use in this country in the forties. C. S. Kennedy has promised a grain cradle, and Frank Bedsaul will install a set of andirons, brought here by his grandfather from Indiana in the early fifties.

In the matter of historic and sentimental value the log cabin will house articles second to none in the state.

H. A. Manle has given a four-poster bed, all hand-made and of unique design and workmanship. H. J. Knauss of Logan brought in a buffalo skull and horns, very large and well preserved. They were found in the county more than eighty years ago.—Sent by Bray.

How many people regularly spend any part of their earning in buying books? Not cheap novels, but lasting works of literature. Some at least of the world's great books should be on every one's shelf. A few cents put aside each week will provide the nucleus of a library in a year. In a few years the collector, for an expenditure that he will never miss, will find himself permanently enriched in his mind and surrounded by friends who will never play him false or deny him comfort.

THE MODEL 1822 MUSKET.—By W. C. White Jr.

One of the most interesting of U. S. military firearms is the model 1822 musket which was issued as a flintlock and later altered by many methods to percussion.

These smooth-bores were made at Harper's Ferry, at Springfield and by various contractors and appeared about 1825 despite the fact that locks are found stamped 1822 to 1824.

As it originally appeared this musket was a flintlock, calibre .69, smooth bore, length 57½ inches, length of barrel 42 inches and weighed about 19 pounds. The stock was of walnut and all other parts were steel except the pan and the front sight which were brass. The bayonet was triangular with a sixteen-inch blade. The bullet was a lead ball (18 to the pound) and a powder charge of 130 gr. was used.

In 1842 the percussion or cap-lock system was adopted by the government and as well as manufacturing entirely new guns many of the old 1822 muskets were altered to percussion in the following different manners:

1. The cone was screwed in a hole bored in the top of the breech. This was the most common and cheapest method.

2. A plug was placed in the side of the breech after the old hole had been bored larger. A cone was screwed in the plug.

3. A lug was brazed on the side of the breech to take the cone.

4. An entirely new breech with cone incorporated was screwed into the old barrel.

In all cases a new hammer was provided and the flintlock accessories on the lock were removed. Many of the muskets were rifled with seven grooves varying from 1 turn in 10 ft. to 1 in 6 ft. With muskets so altered to rifles new rear sights were added as the flintlock had none. The ball was now larger (17 to the pound) and the powder charge 110 gr.

Not all were rifled however. Many remained smooth-bore with no rear sight and using the old ball and charge.

During the early years of the Civil War a shortage of the new calibre .58 rifles was partially filled with the above mentioned alterations of 1822 muskets in all these varieties. It is said that many soldiers mutinied or deserted when ordered to carry these old relics. The reason given was that they were more dangerous to the user than to the enemy. Those altered by the method herein numbered one were especially dangerous, the cone being liable to blow out, breaking the hammer and injuring the soldier.

As well as all the old alterations a new one now appeared. The 1822 muskets and the 1842 rifle were both altered to calibre .58 by brazing a new barrel lining in the old. Rear sights were added when necessary and a ramrod of new design was provided. With the new calibre .58 barrel the Minie or Minnie ball could be used. This was a conical, hollow base, lead bullet, far more accurate than the spherical balls used before.

The Civil War marked the last use of 1822 muskets in warfare and like all old military weapons they are now only valuable to the collector or the museum.

A Check List of Varieties.

I. 1822 flintlock, smooth bore, cal. .69 (original).

II. 1842-63, alteration to percussion. A. Smooth bore, cal. .69, no rear sight (4 methods). B. Rifled, cal. .69, rear sight added (4 methods). C. Rifled, cal. .58, rear sight added (1 method).

HANDFUL OF BONES DUG UP GIVE COLLECTOR OF RARE INDIAN RELICS VISIONS OF IMMENSE BRUTE ONCE LIVING IN COUNTY.

A handful of bones dug up with the bones of a six and one-half foot Indian in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, recently, is puzzling some of the best scientists of the country. The bones are the property of G. B. Fenstermacher. He found them while excavating an Indian grave in this county. He is a collector of Indian relics and an amateur archaeologist.

At the time he found the bones he failed to see anything unusual about them, but still there lingered in his mind an idea that these bones "might mean something." He could not decide from what kind of a creature they came, but decided they probably were those of some animals.

But the mystery surrounding the bones stuck in the back of his mind. And then one day while he was reading a book by the Smithsonian Institute of Washington, D. C., and published by the government, on Indians, he saw photographs of bones identical to those in his possession.

Often in his "den" at his home he gets out the handful of bones and gazes at them, trying to reconstruct in his mind some idea of their origin.

Some day he hopes to discover further data so as to complete the picture. Every time he starts digging in various localities known to him to be rich in Indian relics, he watches for the sign which may lead to the solution of the mystery.

He has taken an interest in Indian lore since he was a lad, even then he took the field in search of relics. And this has been his hobby for the last five years. Practically every Sunday and holiday finds him in his automobile in some section of the county patiently looking for signs left behind by the departed Red Men.

In the past five years he has blazed a name for himself as a collector and his name is known to all of the old timers in this game. In the last five years he has collected from the soil of Lancaster county five thousand arrows, forty-five axes, four clay bowls, forty some soapstone bowls, Indian paint, a pipe, ceremonial stones, spades, beads and a skeleton.

He is proud of his skeleton of a six and a half foot Susquehannock Indian, and plans to have the bones properly assembled in the near future. It was in the grave of this Indian that some of the valuable pottery and the "mystery bones" were found.

The collection of arrows is one of the most complete to be found anywhere. They include all kinds and are made of various material such as flint, limestone, quartzite and stones carried here from other sections. In weight the arrowheads weigh from practically nothing up to a pound. The light ones were used for shooting birds and fast small game. The extreme large ones were used to bring down large animals.

His collection of stone bowls range from some no larger than a coffee cup to one which weighs 150 pounds. The large bowl also is one of the favorite objects. He was walking along in the woods in the local Indian territory not so long ago when he noticed an odd shaped piece of stone sticking out of the ground. Upon further scrutiny he found that the stone had been "worked" as collectors call stone which is "flaked" or chipped off by Indians with another stone.

After some digging he unearthed the entire stone and discovered it to be roughly cut into the same pattern as many smaller bowls he possesses. The bowl has a pair of handles, the tip is slightly hollowed, and the sides

sloped. Close study revealed the work of an Indian artisan.

All of the larger bowls are found with a pair of knobs used as handles roughly cut out of the side of stone and the smaller ones have two holes drilled near the rim and they were apparently carried from place to place on a sling. Many of the smaller ones also have a hole drilled in the center of them.

The ceremonial stones have holes drilled in them, through which rawhide thongs passed. These holes are as round and as true as though they were drilled with modern machinery, although the Indians' chief tools were elderberry sticks, sand and water. In drilling rock, he drove the hole in from both sides, making them meet perfectly.

In his collection there are fine specimens of various forms of Indian axes found in this county. There are axes the Indians used for peaceful pursuits and also the scalper which was used to put the finishing touches to a bloody battle. The Indians also made hammers out of stone, and skinners or celts used for cleaning hides, and pestels used for grinding corn. In his collection he has a perfect pestel more than two feet long and about two inches thick worked out of a piece of solid rock. Other stone implements used by the Indians and found locally include stone spades or notched hoes.

Your veteran collector of Indian relics can sense the grave of an Indian brave yards away. When traces of charcoal are to be found he says you can be sure the grave of an Indian is nearby. Charcoal, he explains, remains intact and preserved in the earth. The Indian buried with elaborate rituals and ceremonies, and the charcoal deposits remain to mark the spot. So when the collector finds charcoal he digs deeper, firm in the belief that but a few feet under the earth buried treasure awaits to reward him for his efforts.

He also has some copper metal which he has found in local Indian graves, indicating that the Red Men who once lived here had trade relations with the Indians from Wisconsin.

The influence of the white men is also seen on the Indians in the relics they left behind. Prior to the coming of the white men the Indians appeared to be satisfied with their stone knives and hatchets being worked fairly smooth, but after having seen the metal knives and hatchets of the white men, they too ground theirs to a razor-like smoothness. This is also indicated in other of their products.

Great spaces of time appear to have elapsed between the time some of the stone work in his collection was turned out by the Indians. The earlier work was very crude and rough while that of a later date was finer and showed better craftsmanship. They are far more artistic.

"We also find mussel shells mixed in the soil as we dig from one to two feet. At the deepest we find the remains, pottery, axes, pipes, ceremonial objects and many other small articles used in the burial ceremony and to prepare the warrior for his trip to the Happy Hunting Grounds.

"The earliest white man on the Susquehanna was Etienne Brule, a native of Champigny, France, who came to Quebec with Champlain in 1607. About 1603 the French were active in the fur trade along the St. Lawrence and in trade between the Susquehannocks who received iron hatchets of which he has several.

The iron material was seen by Captain John Smith in 1608 and found in possession of the Tockwoks. They informed Smith that they had received them from the Susquehannocks.

When hunting on the surface for stone implements you may find small spalls or round pebbles pitted in the center and around the edges. This indicates a camp site or work shop by the arrowmaker. The stone material not from this locality is gotten by trading a good specimen of stone from tribe to tribe. Some comes from as far west as the Rocky Mountains. Absidian, or volcanic glass, looks black like coal and is partly transparent when held to the light. Numerous arrows made of this material have been found in Lancaster county.

The prettiest kind of stones that arrows were made from by Indians in this section is jasper, which comes from Ohio. Some trace of this material also is found in Franklin county, Pennsylvania.

Three stages of axes are found. One is the rough flaked or chipped axe and double cutter axe is the oldest. Next comes the picked axe which is highly polished from a pebble to nearly the proper shape. Finally comes the iron trade axes.

He asks that if any one, particularly persons living in the country, notice signs of Indian camps as described above, that they communicate with him. His post office address is Lancaster, Pa., R. D. 6.

Many Indian relics are turned up each spring during the plowing season. Heavy rains, freshets and washouts also often unearth Indian possessions. He is a member of the Lancaster County Historical Society.—Pa. Paper.

NEW MUSEUM AT GRAN QUIVIRA.—By L. A. Cardwell.

A field museum is to be established at the Gran Quivira National Monument in New Mexico, according to Dr. W. H. Smith, custodian in charge. A long room adjoining the ancient mission ruins will be repaired and the relics taken from the extensive ruins will be displayed in it.

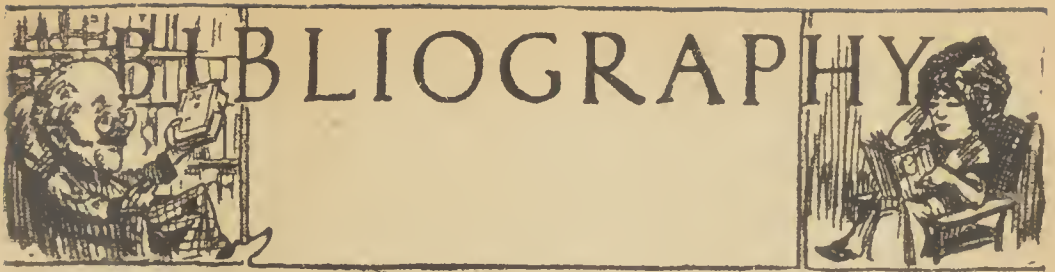
The big Spanish church and convent, which are located on the site of the old Piro village, are said to have been the largest Spanish mission in the southwest. The mission was built 300 years ago by Spanish missionaries and together with the Indian village was abandoned on account of Apache depredations. The floor space of the mission covers 5,000 square feet, including 60 rooms, built in the form of a cross. The walls are from 20 to 40 feet high and great beams, estimated to weigh 3,000 pounds, originally supported the roof. Only one of these huge vegas remains in place today. A short distance to the east of the big mission is the "old church" said to have been built in 1629.

The Old Piro village is believed to have been the home of about 1,500 Indians, whose history it is believed dates back from 2,000 to 4,000 years. Archaeologists have been unable to determine the exact age of the village as yet but recent excavations have shown it to be much older than was previously believed.

Ample material will be available for the displays and the museum will be an added attraction to the ruins for the hundreds of tourists who visit the section each summer. The ruins are located southeast of Albuquerque. —

There has lately been dug up in a field in the neighborhood of Gravesend, England, a small brass coin of Crispus Caesar, who reigned about the year 325.

Two hundred pre-historic axe heads were taken from a gravel pit at Whitlingham, Norfolk.



Edited by Roy Adair, 1715 Champa, Denver, Colo. Under this heading we will answer all inquiries pertaining to books. Questions and answers of interest to subscribers will be published here each issue. Parties having interesting notes kindly send to the above.

Here you may range the world with the magic of a Book; plunge into scenes of remote ages and countries, and cheat expectation and solitude of their weary moments.

Early books of travel and exploration in the West, and the scarcer items relating to the Indians continue to attract collectors and while not bringing exceptional prices, still command a fair premium and prove a good investment.

An item of more than usual interest is the announcement of the discovery of another Button Gwinnett signature which is to be sold at auction in the near future. Gwinnett was a signer of the Declaration of Independence and his signature, which, as the readers of the page may remember, sold last year for the record price of \$28,000, will probably reach a new price at its coming appearance.

Some scarce Americana from dealers' current lists:

An almanac for the year 1696 by John Tulley, Boston, \$175.00.

Eliot's Indian Bible 1663-61. The first edition of the first bible printed in America, listed at \$3,500.00. (This bible is printed throughout in the Indian tongue.)

A Declaration of former passages and proceedings betwixt the English and the Narragansetts, with their confederates, wherein the Grounds and Justice of the ensuing war are opened and cleared by John Winthrop, published in 1645, this small book of only seven pages is one of four known copies of the third book printed in English America. This is listed at \$25,000, a reasonable price when one considers that this is the only copy of this very scarce book outside of the three others which are owned by public libraries.

OLD POWDER HORN IS AN INTERESTING RELIC

E. N. Butterfield of Auburn, Neb., has in his possession a very interesting relic in the form of a powder horn that was owned by his great grandfather. The entire surface of the horn is covered with intricate designs which were carved in the most artistic manner by his great grandfather, and the work represents not only skill but infinite patience. There are trees and scrolls and borders and the figures of deer all blending together to form an intricate design. The horn bears the date 1764. Time has given the horn a deep yellow tinge but has in no way effaced the carving. It has been handed down from generation to generation in the Butterfield family and is naturally much prized as an heirloom.

The horn was originally selected because of its curved shape so that it would fit the body of the wearer and looks like the pictures of those worn by soldiers of the Revolutionary war and by pioneer woodsmen in the days of the muzzle loading musket.

Items of Interest

McKinley Student Has Autographs of 50 Leading Men of United States.

"I find this true of most men, the busier they are and the bigger they are the harder it is to read their writing. An example is the writing of Calvin Coolidge."

This conclusive statement was made by Robert Thomas, fourteen-year-old autograph collector, who numbers in his collection the autographs of many of the most important men of the nation and some of international fame. He not only possesses their autographs on cards but in many cases encouraging letters on crested stationery as well.

"The idea was suggested to me last February when I was reading a book by Edward William Bok," explained Robert. "You know he often talks about himself in his books and one thing he mentioned was his collection of the autographs of Longfellow, Lowell and other famous American men of letters.

"Cyrenus Cole encouraged me to write to the best known men in the country. Before I talked with him I just got local names and he suggested I get more famous ones. Here is the letter Mr. Cole wrote to me from Washington."

The letter written by Representative Cyrenus Cole contained an indication of why Robert has been so successful in receiving replies from famous men. It began, "I am very interested in your letter for what a boy is thinking about at 14 years of age is very important, not only to the boy but to the country of which he is going to be a citizen."

Robert has thirty letters besides fifty famous autographs. The first one received was that of President Coolidge. Others of political fame are Charles G. Dawes, vice president; Frank W. Kellogg, secretary of state; Andrew W. Mellon, secretary of treasury; Dwight F. Davis, secretary of war; John G. Sargent, attorney general; Henry S. New, postmaster general; W. M. Jardine, secretary of agriculture; Hubert Work, secretary of interior; Herbert Hoover, secretary of commerce; James J. Davis, secretary of labor; Albert Cummins, Smith W. Brookhart, David W. Stewart, Daniel F. Steck, William Porah, Nicholas Longworth and William Howard Taft.

Among those which are internationally famous is that of David Lloyd George, and with it the following letter from the former premier's secretary: "Mr. Lloyd George asks me to thank you for your nice letter and to send you the enclosed autograph with his compliments and best wishes for the future."

Harry S. New wrote him the following letter: "Any boy who goes after what he wants as energetically and earnestly as you have in seeking my autograph deserves to get what he goes for. Here it is."

"I am trying to get the forty-eight governors' autographs," said Robert, "but it is hard to find their names as they are not so well known outside of their own states." Already, however, he has those of John Hammill, Iowa; Vic Donahey, Ohio; William W. Brandon, Alabama; Alfred Smith, New York, and eight or nine others. Besides these he has collected autographs of other well known men such Root, Depew, Van Dyke, Sousa and Paddock.

"I tell them that this is my hobby. A also tell them who I have and that my list of famous men won't be complete until I have their names.

"One man, the governor-general of Canada, refused to send me his auto-

graph as he gives it only to people he knows personally. His secretary wrote me a nice letter telling me this.

"The hardest one I've tried for is that of Thomas Edison. It isn't because he doesn't want to give it to me, it's because he is so terribly busy. I've written him three times."

Robert has placed his autographs in four small books which he says are only temporary arrangements. Beside names of some of the best known men he has typed short biographies.

"I am just getting started and it will probably take three or four years to get my signatures arranged correctly."

Lincoln Relic Collector Would Move Treasured Exhibition to Ford's Theater.

The Oldroyd collection of Lincoln relics should be moved from its present quarters at 516 Tenth street, to the Ford Theater, across the street, where Lincoln was shot, in the belief of O. H. Oldroyd, who has devoted his life to assembling the collection.

This is also the substance of a resolution passed recently by the Council of Administration of the Department of the Potomac, G. A. R.

The collection, which consists of more than 3,000 articles brought together over 63 years, was purchased by the government this year.

The resolution stresses the great educational value of the collection and points out that the present quarters are too small to allow it to be seen to advantage by the thousands of visitors to Washington. In addition, the building is not fireproof.

A G. A. R. committee is to confer with government officials on the move.

As it will be 21 years before the correspondence of Abraham Lincoln is made public, those of us who are writing books about him may decide to wait until after that date.

A Luther Bible.

For many years the object of a world-wide search by professors in the German department of Northwestern university, finally located and purchased and then mislaid for a quarter of a century, a copy of the last edition of Luther's translation of the Bible, was recently found in the files of the Evanston institution.

The volume, which was printed in 1545 and bears the seal of the great reformer, is one of the two of that edition known to be in America. The other is in the library of Columbia university. The book is well preserved and the yellowed pages are graced with illuminated letters and quaint wood cuts.

Other volumes, lost to sight for almost a generation and found with the Luther Bible, include first editions of Goethe and Schiller and other German classicists.

2,000-Year-Old Game Shown in London.

London.—Invented in ancient Greece more than 2,000 years ago, a game was exhibited recently in London consisting of fourteen small flat pieces of ebonite of various shapes, which, when properly arranged, form pictures of an elephant, an ostrich, a charging soldier, a barking dog and several other figures.

This game was probably used educationally for the training of the

powers of observation or memory in children, and, although mentioned in ancient manuscripts, all trace of it had been lost for the last 1,500 years.

Exhibits Relic.

An interesting relic of railroad days is that being exhibited by A. N. Harbert, Shellsburg, at the Rock Island office. It is a rubber stamp bearing the lettering Iowa City and the initials M. & M. R. R. (Mississippi and Missouri Railroad) dated Nov. 9, 1868. Mr. Harbert obtained the stamp in Chicago and stopped here on his way to his home. He also has in his possession an old map of Iowa.

WANTED MAXIMS ON COINS.

The first third of the nineteenth century was the heyday of Staffordshire ware decorated with pictures. From the factories of the Staffordshire potters poured forth a veritable stream of china immortalizing notable events, famous people, landscapes, characters of fiction such as Dr. Syntax and Don Quixote, and many historical scenes and events in America. And not the least interesting of this china were the series picturing maxims, proverbs and morals.

Of this didactic china many pieces carried reproductions of "Poor Richard's" sayings, which our great American, Benjamin Franklin, industriously circulated through his Poor Richards Almanack for twenty-five years. Unlike the plates and other dishes with American scenes on them, these illustrated maxims on tableware had as much popularity in England as in this country, and are now greatly treasured by American collectors, of which there is an army.

Franklin's residence in Europe inspired not only beautiful procelain medallions and statuettes by French artists, but Josiah Wedgewood in England produced an excellent likeness of him.

The Poor Richard maxims were very near to Franklin's heart and he let no chance slip to get them into greater circulation. One of his projects—which, however, was not carried out—was to imprint on one side of the copper coins of the new American republic some proverbs of Solomon and other sayings encouraging thrift. "Diligence is the mother of good luck," and "Plough deep while sluggards sleep" were among those he suggested. His practical and benevolent mind pictured how many a family would read and study his precepts as they gathered round the hearth.

INTERESTING COLLECTION OF CURRENCY AND COIN.

There are not many Hanover, Pa., homes which do not have a private collection of old coins, even if they be only one or two pieces put aside as keepsakes because of the date corresponding to some family event.

Not all are as fortunate, however, to possess as many interesting coins and pieces of paper currency as J. M. Koller, the Broadway picture dealer. He has in his collection \$5, \$10, \$20 and \$50 Confederate notes in perfect condition. They were picked up on the streets of Richmond, Va., in 1864. He also boasts three \$1,000 Confederate 8 per cent bonds issued at Richmond October 18, 1862. Fractional United States currency is interesting, especially the 25-cent note of 1862 containing five portraits of Washington engraved on it and two fifty-cent notes, which Mr. Koller has. His coins include United States copper cents of 1795, 1836 and 1863; a half-cent of 1804; and 25-cent pieces of 1820 and 1825.

STUDENT OF KANSAS INDIAN LORE—BURIAL MOUNDS OF PAWNEES

Floyd Schultz of Clay Center, student of Indian lore, has discovered twenty-two Indian burial mounds in Clay and Geary counties, used by the Pawnee Indians in the days before the white man ever saw what is now the Republican River Valley. There are eighteen mounds on the range of hills bordering Timber Creek and the Republican River in the southeastern part of Clay county and four are in the northeastern corner of Geary county. The Indian cemetery covers a territory four miles long and nearly three miles wide, the mounds being found on the tops of the most prominent hills of the neighborhood.

Three of the mounds are of comparatively recent origin; that is, since the Pawnees came into contact with white people. These are all in the same neighborhood. In one of these mounds was found the skeleton of a child and besides it was a glass bottle with this inscription blown in the bottle: "By the King's Patent, Essence of Peppermint." It is believed this bottle, given to the Indian baby as a toy, is 75 to 100 years old and this mound probably is the last used by the Pawnees before being transferred to the new reservation to the south when the treaties were made by which Kansas became a territory.

The Indian mounds were only recently discovered. Some two or three years ago one was accidentally opened on the Louis Dittmar farm and shortly afterward one was opened on what is now the Clay Center Country Club site. Mr. Schultz has walked hundreds of miles over the territory covered by the Indian cemetery examining the terrain and locating additional cairns.

"The usual mode of burial among the Pawnees," said Mr. Schultz, "was to make what is termed a scaffold burial. The body was wrapped in robes and placed on a scaffold constructed of four upright poles supporting a platform, six feet or more above the ground, or on a platform placed in the fork of a tree. It was customary to gather what remained of these scaffold burials after a year or more and deposit them in the mounds.

"These mounds are of several types of construction. Some of them are built up of loose rock covering a surface fifteen to twenty-five feet in diameter and fifteen to thirty inches high. Others are constructed by excavating a pit twelve to eighteen feet in diameter, covered with an 8 or 10 inch layer of rock. A large number of these rocks show they have been in contact with fire before being placed in the mound.

"The contents of these mounds are not what is the popular belief, that the family treasury is buried with the dead. They generally contain only a few articles, such as arrow heads and beads mixed with pieces of broken bones. The number of broken bones and skulls found in these mounds will fill a quart to a bushel measure and represent from a few to forty or more individuals, ranging in age from children of a few weeks to adults of advanced age."

Mr. Schultz described in detail the exact contents of one of the larger of these mounds.

"The mound proper," he said, "was about twenty-four feet in diameter with an average depth of twenty-four inches. The only indication of the location was the exposed surface of a few stones. Near the surface and mixed with stones were a great many broken and burnt pieces of skull and bones and mixed with these were pieces of bone, hair ornaments and scattered mussel shell beads. There were several small arrow heads, pieces of

broken pottery and mussel shell mixed with the dirt and stone around the outer edges of the mound. A strip at the north end contained several hundred bone beads, made from animal and bird bones. Many of the stones had been in contact with fire.

"The contents of this mound showed the following: That first an excavation had been made; the stone was fired outside the pit; the bones and personal articles were broken up and burned on or near the fired stones and then the pit was filled with the excavated dirt, stones and remains of the funeral pyre."

HASTINGS, NEB., MUSEUM OPENS.

The exhibits which are being mounted and arranged by A. M. Brooking are only partly in place but already make a large and interesting showing. The Brooking bird collection now consists of 2,000 mounted specimens, though there is about one-third of the collection yet to be put in place. The A. T. Hill collection consists largely of Indian relics, many of which are Pawnee Indian relics collected on the Hill farm near Red Cloud, but his collection also includes miscellaneous exhibits which he has spent a lifetime in assembling. He has 300 guns of the models of all ages from colonial days to the present time.

MR. MOORE'S COLLECTION OF ONE-CENT CHECKS.

The Louisville Herald-Post of December 5 contains a lengthy article by Florence Ogden on the collection of one-cent checks of noted people formed by Waldo C. Moore, of Lewisburg, Ohio. The writer states that Mr. Moore's collection of one-cent checks contains about 1,400 specimens. The article gives the names of many of those who have favored Mr. Moore with their autograph at the bottom of a check for this small amount and illustrates nine of the checks given by noted Kentuckians. Among these are Irvin S. Cobb, and Henry Waterson, as well as others prominent in the political and literary history of Kentucky.—Numismatist.

BUTTERFLIES.

The collection of butterflies from South America, owned by M. Dognin of France, has been purchased with private funds for \$50,000 and presented to the national Museum at Washington says the Ohio Journal. It is much the largest collection of the gorgeous colored insects in the world, years of painstaking labor having been done in gathering the specimens. The war destroyed the private fortune of M. Dognin and forced him to dispose of his collection but he refused to sell unless the specimens became the property of a prominent scientific organization where their value and history would be known and the collection be cared for properly.

PENNSYLVANIA MAN REFUSES \$8,000 FOR OLD BIBLE.

Pottsville, Pa.—Siston Miller of Orwigsburg today refused an offer of \$8,000 for an ancient Bible he discovered recently in the attic of his home.

The only other similar Bible recently was sold in England for \$10,000. The book was printed in England in 1635. When the copy was sold it was said it was the only one in existence. Experts pronounced the local Bible authentic beyond doubt. It has been in the Miller family over a century and while it was regarded as a curiosity its great value was not known until this week.—Gooch.

LONDON CURIO AUCTIONS.—By Dr. Drake.

During a medical visit to Europe last summer an auction room was discovered, a visit to which would bring delight to the hearts of all "West" readers. This is Stevens,' located near Covent Garden, London. This auction room has been established for about 100 years and all the miscellaneous collections seem to go through its doors. Sales of antiques, weapons, china, archaeological specimens, medals, in fact all the various lines written of in "The West" are held every two weeks. Catalogues are issued but only three or four days before the sales. About ninety per cent of the buyers are dealers, hence real bargains can be obtained. An ivory carving sold for \$10 can later be found in a dealer's window marked \$25. The majority of the curios sold in the so-called "Thieves Market," where collectors congregate in the hopes of picking up bargains, have been purchased in these rooms and many still retain their original lot number. Curios of all degrees of rarity may be purchased from material only suitable for the junk heap to a cut glass tumbler engraved with the arms of Prince Charles at \$100 or an ancestral wooden figure from Easter Island at the same price. The majority of the lots sell at from \$1 to \$5 each, to appear eventually in the smaller curio shops where one goes in search of bargains.

Articles obtained by the writer in these rooms last summer include 13½ inch New Zealand chief's club or meri made of jade \$30.00. A similar one was seen in an antique shop in Glasgow priced at \$150. An elaborately decorated Glastonbury plate, size of a dinner plate, \$5.00. A Persian iron shield, 12 inches in diameter, beautifully damascened in gold \$7.00, a similar one 2 feet in diameter \$20.00. Three pewter plates, date about 1790, with nice touch marks \$7.50 the lot. Four pewter tankards, one nicely engraved with a coat of arms \$5.00 the lot. Fifteen large Palaeolithic flint implements \$10. Five perfect specimens of effigy pottery from Peru, dug from graves, one human shape, one snarling jaguars head, 3 with jaguars crawling across the top, \$12.50 the lot. (The 5 specimens were part of a collection of ancient Peruvian pottery containing about 50 specimens, the remainder being sold at the same sale to the British museum.) One Persian sword and one dagger each in a silver sheath for \$5.00 the pair. A collection of swords and daggers, 23 in number and including a 17th century Indian sword with wavy blade, 4 Indian daggers with deeply engraved blades, 3 Persian daggers, silver damascened blades in inlaid metal scabbards, 2 flint lock pistols and a flint lock blunderbus was obtained in various lots for a total outlay of about \$35.00. Two intricately engraved Persian brass shields were obtained at the bargain price of \$5.00 for the pair.

Weapons of all varieties went at very low prices. China and glass brought very good prices. Masonic medals and other antiques produced very high prices. Sixty glass cases each containing from 1 to 3 stuffed birds in good condition were bought by a London dealer for \$20.00 the lot. As stuffed birds are the only variety of curios I have never collected I did not raise his bid.

When I first began to collect, anything was good enough but that time is past and what I have I want it to be fine or very fine. I have found one fine piece is worth a half dozen poor ones. My advice to would-be collectors—don't start into collecting and think you can get a fine piece for a song.—E. H. Harris.

COINS TRACE HISTORY OF WORLD

Money—the root of all evil—cause of wars—price of love—prerequisite to happiness.

A page of world history is unfolded for the eyes of Denver in the shape of an exhibition of coins, currency, wampum, shell money, and the myriad other forms by which men have contrived to represent value since the dawn of time. The exhibit is being shown in observance of national coin week.

"No matter what viewpoint you may take, be it that of cynic, pessimist, or normal contented American, you can find no truer index of human civilization, no more complete relation of the story of mankind than that told by money," said Godfrey Schirmer, president of a bank and a noted collector, in charge of the exhibition.

Beneath the glass tops of two cases, 20 feet long and but four feet wide, are assembled spokesmen from every corner of the world, from every age.

Translated into the human experience which they motivated, they tell of wars, revolutions, religious upheavals, commercial conquests, the building of empires and their decay, invasions of barbarian hordes, feats of explorers, exploits of pioneers.

Actors in a mighty spectacle, a drama of inestimable proportions, they move across a vast stage. On its backdrops tower the pyramids of Egypt, the walls of Rome, the hill in ancient Judea, traversed by the shadow of the cross.

And from curtain to curtain the drama's span stretches from the time when painted savages bartered strings of shell beads to that later day when 200,000,000,000-mark notes in Germany were eagerly traded for other "scraps of paper," American greenbacks.

There is a rouelle, a silver cartwheel, from ancient Gaul. When Caesar crossed the Rubicon his soldiers were probably grumbling about how much they'd lose when the wily money-changers of Rome exchanged those rude coins of imperial gold.

Two pieces of silver, no larger than quarters, are the center of all eyes. Hebrew shekels—they were in circulation at the time of Christ's crucifixion.

Christians speculate in awe. With 30 pieces of silver like those in his purse, Judas kissed his Master. Jews scan them curiously, ferreting out the meaning of the dim inscriptions.

The "widow's mite" of Biblical allusion is there, too, a tiny coin about the size of a dime, known as a "lepton," dating from A. D. 30.

Epochal events of a later era are revealed by the paper money. A 5-livre "assignat," dated Year II of the French revolution, was issued during the regime of Robespierre. Across one corner is written: "Liberty, Equality, Fraternity, or Death," an echo from the roar of the mob as the guillotine's blade flashed.

Another wrinkled bit of paper tells of the birth of a nation in the new world. It is a Continental note issued by the state of Georgia in 1777, "for the support of the Continental troops"—Valley Forge, Trenton, Yorktown.

An ironic sidelight on the tragedy of the "lost cause" is borne by a Confederate note issued by the sovereign state of Alabama in 1862, while hopes were still high in Dixie. It stated: "To be redeemed 12 months after the signing of a definitive treaty of peace between the Confederate States and the United States." No hint then of Grant's terse "unconditional surrender."

Coming closer home, two other faded banknotes tell of the waxing and

waning of boom days in Colorado—a \$5 bill issued in 1871 by the Miners National bank of Georgetown, another five-spot issued in 1873 by the First National bank of Central City. Neither bank is now in existence.

Strangest of all the exhibits in the mystery surrounding it, is a large silver medallion, issued in 1803 by President Jefferson and presented to an Indian chief as a token of amity.

Battered saucer-shape by the pounding hoofs of bison herds, the medal was picked up years later on the plains of New Mexico.—Sent by Beals.

LARGEST COIN COLLECTION UNDER AUCTION HAMMER.

Later on in the year the largest collection of medals will come under the hammer is London. This assemblage was made by the late Mr. G. Hamilton-Smith, of Leigh Woods, Bristol, who brought together a most complete collection of medals of the military and naval events of Great Britain.

The services of all regiments are fully represented, and wherever naval and military achievements have adorned the history of the two services a record of them is found here. The collection includes the gold mounted sword presented by Trinidad, and the gold cross, valued at considerably over \$5,000, awarded to Sir Thomas Picton. So are the Peninsular campaigns, the Wellington Victories in India, Spain and Belgium and the very rare memorials struck for the victories of Nelson and his sea-captains.

The cabinet also contains coins struck in Bristol from Saxon times to the XVIIth century, besides patterns of XVIIIth and XIXth century coins and—what is very unusual in this country—a choice assemblage of American coins.

VIKINGS MAY HAVE LEFT FLINT SPEARHEAD IN MAINE

A large flint spearhead made of material different from Indian spearheads of Maine is arousing renewed interest in the stories of Norse adventurers in North America in the eleventh century. The spearhead, which was found on the beach at Pemaquid, Me., several years ago, is now in the possession of Walter B. Smith, who has made extensive studies of Indian remains in that region.

In a report on the possibility of finding traces of the Norsemen, just made by Mr. Smith, he states that the spearhead may be Indian in origin. He points out, however, that it is not of flint such as the Indians used, but seems to be identical with a rock called halleflinta, which is well known in Scandinavia. The fact that eleventh century Vikings had passed the age of stone tools adds to the mystery.

STONE PIPE WEIGHING SIX POUNDS DUG UP IN WISCONSIN.

A prehistoric stone pipe, evidently made by the Indians in the Middle Mississippi Valley and found in 1925 in Dane county, Wis., is now on exhibition in the State Historical Museum at Madison. Charles E. Brown, curator, declares it is the largest effigy platform pipe found in Wisconsin.

The pipe, which is of fossiliferous limestone, represents a discoid about three inches thick, standing upon a thinner disk. A carved, now headless, figure of a woman kneels beside the discoid. The bowl was hewn in the top of the discoid, while the stem entered through an aperture in the side. The pipe bears evidence of having once been highly polished. The pipe is 5¾ inches high, 6½ inches long and weighs almost six pounds. It was found in a gravel hill on the Atwood farm in Albion township.—N. Y. Times.

ITEMS OF INTEREST TO HOBBSYTES—By W. Straley, Independence, Mo.

Dr. Chesshir, Superior, Neb., has his fine collection of Indian relics on display in the show window of a local store. The unique lighting of the skulls attracts much attention at night. See illustration pages.

The press is calling attention to vast amount of bogus antiques that are being offered to collectors, especially in the furniture and picture line.

King George V has presented a silver alms dish to the Cathedral of St. John the Divine, New York. Presentation was made through Sir Esme Howard, British ambassador.

Presented at a sale in Paris, a Jean Jacques Roussian letter brought 6,100 francs and a Louis XVI brought 1,000 francs.

Mr. J. H. Moore, Washington, D. C. died February 16, aged 49 years. He was a post office clerk in charge of postage stamp issues in the U. S. post office department and at one time served a government philatelic club. His hobby was well known among the collectors throughout the country.

The London Standard says: "A native found the first piece of gold in Angkor. Seeing his master counting gold coins he said he found a piece which looked like the yellowish ones. He offered to give it to him and he said it was a piece of gold. The master later sold the nugget for more than 20,000."

The Great Church is never used by the Chinese themselves.—Ex.

The Palmyra (Mo.) Spectator says: "It has taken the Marion county court just 100 years to run through the alphabet and use up twenty-six record books of precedents. The record books are marked with letters of the alphabet. The first record book is marked A and the first entry in it was made March 26, 1827. The book marked Z will be filled in March of this year. Another county was organized in March, 1827."

The Kansas City (Mo.) Star says: "In Peru the postal system is owned by private companies and not by the government."

The oldest bank notes on record are the "flying money" or "covenant money" issued in China in 2697 B. C. At first these notes were issued by the treasury of the government, but it was found that the attendant expense was large. They were then issued to banks which were under government inspection and control. That China had a marvelous financial system centuries before our Christ was born. The notes issued were printed in blue ink on paper made from the leaves of mulberry trees. Several specimens of Chinese notes issued during the Wink dynasty in the fourteenth century are still in existence. That was about fifty years before the establishment of the first European bank. The Mentor.

The Palace of Westminster (House of Parliament) has 500 rooms and each room contains a clock, while in addition some corridors and staircases are also provided with time pieces. This vast array of clocks require constant attention of several clockmaker's assistants, who wind and see that each piece keeps correct time.

The Pathfinder remarks: "The geological society at Leningrad has announced an unknown chain of mountains in the Yatutsk region along the Indigirka river. The chain is said to extend for 1,000 miles and to have peaks 11,000 feet high. It is to be named the Lenin mountains."

According to a recent Associated Press report Dr. A. S. Rosenbach of New York paid \$51,000 for a letter with the autograph of Button Gwinnett

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and five other signers of the declaration of independence. The letter was found recently in an old barn at Mamaroneck, N. Y.

Ornaments of chains of gold and precious stones (including emeralds, rubies, sapphires and diamonds) were recently found in a tunnel beneath the ruins of the ancient San Jose church in Panama by George Williams and Fred Kelly, Englishmen, and Wallace Bain, an American, who explored the ruins under a special concession granted by the president of Panama. The relics were supposed to have been buried at the time that Morgan, the buccaner, sacked the city.

For notice in the West about old bills; I have the following. A 4-pence, 1777 to counterfeit is death. A 9-pence Philadelphia, John Dunlap, 1777. Reverse has the act of Pennsylvania assembly the 10th day of April, 1777. One for 8 shillings with same John Dunlap. Reverse shows a farm scene. One for 10 shillings, signed W. Fisher, Henry Morgan and H. Barnes, their original signatures, reverse farm scenery, printed by Hall & Sellers. One one-dollar, according to the resolution of congress at Philadelphia, February 17, 1777, has a circle with an hour sign sun and says mind your business. Reverse has 13 interlined rings, each ring gives the name of one of the original 13 states, printed by Hall & Sellers, Philadelphia, 1776. One of two dollars with a circle and an arm holding what looks like the old threshing flail, words in circle Tribulation Ditat, by Congress 1779, signed J. Graff and G. Winter, reverse a white oak leaf, number in red ink 130025. One of ten dollars, No. 139692, has a circle with a red hog running and reeling around circle Aut Mors Aut Vita Decora, signed W. Gamble, J. Snowdon; reverse same white oak leaf, printed by Hall & Sellers, 1779. These are all in good condition except the 4 pence and 8 shilling has blot on one side but leaves everything plain. Can any readers of West make a better showing. Have some fifty or more old confederate bills and old bank bills, Mississippi note \$1, \$2, \$3 but punched enough for once if accepted may have been old paper-commissions.—Joe Weber, Bethlehem, Pa.

ANTIQUÉ COLLECTOR DIES AT MADISON, NEB.

Dr. Edward N. Smart, 71, prominent physician and world traveler, died suddenly, April 17. Dr. Smart was a great collector of antiques and during his life became the owner of many rare specimens that represent several thousands of dollars in value.

During the past several years Dr. and Mrs. Smart have traveled extensively in Europe, South America, Central America, Pan America and Mexico as well as in nearly all states of the United States. He is survived by his widow and one son Edward L. Smart, Hawthorne, Calif.

West has illustrated some of his collection.

OLD COIN COLLECTION ON EXHIBIT AT RED OAK, IOWA.

A collection of old coins, some dating back 2,000 years before Christ and owned by Charles Whittington, 11, is being displayed in the windows of the Houghton bank. This display is part of his collection that has received considerable publicity, and which has called forth many letters of praise from other collectors.

In the collection are several paper confederate bills, coins from France, Germany, Belgium, Dutch East India and one from the Malay colonies which dates back 2,000 years before the birth of Christ.—Omaha Bee.

AMERICAN SILVER MONEY HAS INTERESTING HISTORY.

Old records show that silver tokens for making change were first used in this country in Annapolis, Md. With the consent of the government, I. Chalmers, an Annapolis gold and silver smith, in 1783 turned out by hand sixpence, threepence and shilling coins, to combat sharpers who, after depreciation of paper money, began to cut five "quarters" out of silver Spanish dollars.

Because of lack of change, the cutting of Spanish dollars into halves and fourths was condoned, and even necessary, until it was discovered that expert cutters were reaping a small fortune. When expertly cut the fifths could be discerned from quarters only by keen eyesight or by weighing. Chalmers produced new standard coins and took the short pieces in exchange until the fraud was stopped.

PLAQUES FROM THE MINT

The Polish mint, following the example of the mints at Paris and Vienna, has decided to create a special department for the making of plaques, medallions, and the like, which will be for sale to the general public in the autumn. The first series will consist of past and present Polish heroes, including Reymont and Marshal Pilsudsky. Later will be produced medallions of the forty-two Polish kings, reproductions of Christ, the Virgin Mary, and the Saints; while famous buildings are also included. The art critics are enthusiastic in their praise of the designs, and the prices of the various works are exceptionally cheap, ranging from about six pence to £1.

The British Museum has about four thousand different editions of the Bible.

AN INDIAN RELIC FARM

Andy Shearer of Frankfort, Kas., found an old Indian spear head on his farm west of town the other day. Mr. Shearer has plowed up many arrow heads on his farm and thinks it probably was the site of an Indian village. Otto Wullschleger of Winifred has one of the best Indian collections in Marshall county. At one time, an Indian village was located on the site of his farm and he has found everything from tomahawks and arrowheads to grinding stones. Harold Hartman of the Frankfort Index has been interested in Indian relics since a small boy. At one time he thought he had discovered the burial ground of an Indian tribe but was informed he was about to exhume the remains of Major Lourey's race horses.—K. C. Star.

BILL COLLECTING.—By Otto Oddehon.

It seems strange that there are not more collectors of old bills, or more precisely paper money or currency. It is certainly one of the finest and most interesting of hobbies, comprising as it does an important medium of exchange in the world of business, an activity in which all of us are more or less vitally concerned. Real money at one time, issued by the respective governments for the purpose of buying commodities and settling debts, it still, even if demonitized, bears the honor of having been of substantial use, a real necessity and thus closely connected with historical events of great importance. It also forms an interesting study in art, the various bills being as a rule fine examples of designing, engraving and printing. The specimens are of goodly size, so as to be easily handled without trouble or fuss

and yet take up but little space, are of light weight and not nearly so easily damaged as either coins or stamps to say nothing of many other collectable things. And yet bills are as plentiful almost, in both number and variety as postage stamps, and costing practically no more are thus within the reach of all. Paper money is at present available from nearly every country in the world and in most instances at prices that are but a small fraction of their once face value. Many of them are extremely beautiful and all are interesting. Quite a few bear the autographs of famous persons and public officials to say nothing of the portraits, government seals and strange inscriptions. A few are quite scarce and much sought after, hence bring high prices and thus ought to be fairly good game for those burdened with heavy pocket-books. But such series or issues can be avoided just as they are in all other hobbies—as a something to be attained eventually—when our ship at last comes in. And then one of the best things about bill collecting is that no paste, glue, thongs, hinges, envelopes, costly albums or other paraphernalia are required. Owing to the goodly size of the specimens each bill can be kept between the leaves of an ordinary memorandum or blank-page book—loose and available for instant inspection, and yet securely kept in place. A blank book with leaves just large enough can be bought for a quarter or less or one can be quickly and easily made. Twenty or thirty leaves will hold that number of bills if one bill is kept in each space or twice as many if two are placed between each set of leaves. The leaves can be turned and the bills examined on both sides as easily and in the same manner as one looks at the pictures in a book. Not being fastened they can readily be removed for closer inspection or re-arrangement. When the book is closed the bills are securely held and may even be carried in the pocket without fear of the bills falling out from between the leaves. A number of books can be provided, each to hold a set, series, or all bills of one country as desired. The pages of these books should be but a trifle larger than the bills they are designed to accommodate as the bills make a better appearance when the leaves are a quarter to a half inch larger than the bills themselves.

This arrangement will be found entirely satisfactory and cost next to nothing, so that all of one's money available for that purpose can be devoted to the collection and not in large part to accessories as is the case with so many other hobbies. This phase alone ought to be of importance to anyone contemplating taking up a new hobby or entering the sport for the first time. Of course one can provide oneself with more elaborate books or keep the collection in different ways as may best suit one's fancy and means. Some day bill collecting is going to come into its own and then those who have a nice little collection stand to reap a good reward. Fashion changes in all things and sooner than realized, perhaps it may swing to this interesting hobby.

COINS GOING UP

One Wall street dealer in coins is gradually cornering recent U. S. coins. Somebody tells us that so far it has proved profitable, although, we understand that this dealer is not in the game so much to make money as for the fun of it. We have known him personally for 20 years so we well believe that version. First he started with 2½ gold pieces, liberty heads, and now he is working on Isabella quarters and Lafayette dollars. Price is advancing at 25c a month. This is not a boost for these coins because we haven't any to sell. So there now!

LETTER CONCERNING 1838 PENNY BRINGS NEWS OF HOST OF OLD COINS OWNED BY LOCAL PERSONS.

A host of old coins have been brought to the Olean office as a result of the letter sent by the Rev. Richard Brooks, Bliss, N. Y., concerning the 1838 penny owned by him.

The oldest coin belongs to J. W. Davis, 687 Garden avenue, who possesses an English four or six-pence piece of silver dated 1721. A silver three-cent piece used in pre-Revolutionary days of this country is dated 1731. Mr. Davis also possesses a copper cent of the vintage 1817; a one-half cent of 1809, marked with thirteen stars; a silver four-cent piece of United States mintage but with ineligible date; an English farthing copper piece of 1847, and an English penny four times heavier than the present issue. Mr. Davis also owns a U. S. A. ship's colonies and commerce coin of no date, a U. S. A. Grover Cleveland and Thomas Hendricks, and a one-cent piece with the eagle cast of 1857.

One of the oldest American coins is an 1804 penny belonging to J. H. Baker, 722 Spring street. Mr. Baker came into possession of the coin twenty-five years ago. It was in a pocketbook which he found in front of White's Drug Store which occupied the corner of Union and West Sullivan street at that time. Mr. Baker also owns four pennies cast with the eagle, the oldest of which is 1858.

Another old coin is an English penny of 1760 owned by H. D. Stowell, 378 North Union street. He also owns an American penny of 1803. Numbered in his collection is an 1803 American penny, a twenty-five cent piece of 1834, a ten cent piece of 1836, and a silver one-half of a ten cent piece, or five cent piece of 1856.

In the large collection owned by Mrs. Ira Fuller, 213 West Green street, is numbered a Britannia penny of 1795 which weighs more than one-half an ounce. Mrs. Fuller also owns an American penny of 1828. Mrs. Fuller's grandfather saved the collection at the time of the Civil War. He gave them to Mrs. Fuller's brother, who in turn gave them to her.

A one-cent piece dated 1814 is owned by Charles Hubbs, 120 South Third street. The coin is the size of a half dollar and in perfect condition of legibility. Mr. Hubbs also owns among his collection half cent pieces of 1809 and 1810. He found the coins under the floor of a house in Belvidere which was being razed.

Fred Snowden, 227 Adams street, owns a one-cent piece of 1819 which he has carried for fifteen years. Mr. Snowden said he did not know how the coin came into his possession. It is larger than a half dollar of today.

An 1816 coin minted during the reign of George IV, and bearing features, is possessed by G. L. Bemis, 531 Second avenue. The date is clear, although the coin is in a battered condition. Mr. Bemis received the coin as change some years ago, he stated.

An 1818 one-cent piece is the oldest coin in an interesting collection brought to the Times by Robert Witherell, 419 King street. The coin is in excellent condition. A coin of same appearance minted in 1834 is included in the collection as well as a one-cent piece of 1855 which shows a deviation in the coinage. The latter piece is a trifle smaller and thicker and is cast with the profile of another Goddess of Liberty. A two cent piece of 1870 is another interesting coin in the collection. A five-cent French piece cast with the head of "Napoleon III Empereur," is also included in the group. There

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are many old Canadian and English coins owned by Mr. Witherell. A beautiful old-fashioned case inlaid with mother-of-pearl encases the Witherell collection.

Mrs. Charles Blackmon, West Henley street, has a three-cent piece dated 1881 in her collection. A one-cent piece of 1828 is also included. Raymond Fowler, South Fourteenth street, is possessor of an 1849 penny.

Ella Wright of Eldred wrote in previously concerning her 1827 penny and 1835 twenty-five cent piece. A. B. Swartz, 322 North Ninth street, brought in an 1829 penny to the Times earlier this week. Mrs. John Maloney, 27 Maple street, Cuba, has written concerning two old coins owned by her: a copper penny of 1818 and a fifty-cent piece dated 1833.

A letter for Earl R. Nichols of Shinglehouse received today tells of an 1809 half-cent piece owned by him as well as a penny of 1831, ten-cent pieces of 1834 and 1835, and a fifty-cent piece of 1826.

Nathan R. Austin of Franklinville writes that he has a penny the duplicate in description of the one owned by the Rev. Brooks but of the mintage of 1836 instead of 1838.—Sent by Phillips.

\$800 PENNY ONE OF THREE COINED

Carthage, Mo.—A United States penny, worth \$800, according to coin collectors' guides, has been on exhibition in the window of a jewelry store here.

The penny was coined in 1838 in the days of the anti-slavery agitation and bears the picture of a Negro woman slave kneeling in fetters and the inscription: "Am I not a woman and a Sister," encircling the picture. On the other side the stamping reads "United States of America—One Cent." and "Liberty, 1828."

OWNS RARE RELICS

M. C. Stoops, of the Pike County Democrat at Petersburg, Ind., has quite a valuable collection of relics in his possession which he and his wife, who recently died, had assembled in the past thirty years. Mr. Stoops' display includes two McGuffey readers, one dictionary printed in 1760, and many other books that are over one hundred years old. He also has many articles of hand carved furniture which are valuable additions to his collection and which he prizes highly.

ROVE TUNNEL MEDAL.

In commemoration of the visit of M. Doumergue, the French president, to open the Rove waterway tunnel, the Marseilles Chamber of Commerce has ordered a medal to be struck. The design shows on one side the southern entrance of the tunnel, while the reverse shows the semi-circle of the vault of the tunnel, through which can be seen in the distance the panorama of the town and port of Marseilles.

TEN OLD DOLLARS BRING \$1,425.

Ten Oregon dollars of native gold, surviving the frontier period and now very rare, brought \$1,425 in New York. Bidders also got a Liverpool 1791 halfpenny, of which only four are known, for \$100; a 1793 Liberty Cap American penny for \$105; ten California 1852 dollars for \$170; a Colorado \$20 piece of 1860 for \$475, and an American 1794 silver dollar for \$132.50.—N. Y. World. Sent by Abels.

DR CHESSHIR SPEAKS ON INDIAN ETHNOLOGY.

We entirely forgot to mention in last number the very interesting address given at Kiwanis Club meeting February 10 by Dr. J. M. S. Chesshir on Indian ethnology. Dr. has pursued his subject as a hobby for several years, and has acquired a considerable collection of Indian relics, with some of which he illustrated his lecture. Some of these relics were obtained by his efforts from excavated Indian villages and burial places in this vicinity and elsewhere. Others were acquired by purchase or by trade from other places all over the country.

He displayed his collection in the show window of the Mullet store two weeks. The people of this community were interested in viewing it.—Superior Express.

GERMAN PAPER MARKS.

The German embassy at Washington has found it advisable to issue a warning pointing out that "the paper mark currency, after having lost its value, has been abolished and replaced by a new Reichsbank currency." Apparently there is still a considerable speculation going on in different parts of the United States in bank notes and bonds of the former German paper mark currency, unscrupulous people finding a gullable public to relieve them of the worthless paper. It is not so incredulous as it appears, because during the last few weeks we have received many letters from people in this country who hold German mark paper, and who cherish a hope that they are in possession of something that may in time develop into something of real value.

CANADIAN JUBILEE COINS.

The National Committee for the celebration of the jubilee of Canadian Confederation has decided to invite Canadian artists to submit designs for the reverses of the Canadian cent, five cent, ten cent and twenty-five cent pieces. If the designs be acceptable the committee expects that the coins will be not simply commemorative but permanent in their issue.

Dr. Drake, Boston, writes: I was in England last summer and picked up quite a lot of various curios cheap. Got a very fine New Zealand chief's Meri or club made of green jade, 13½ inches long for \$30.00. Pewter was quite cheap \$4.00 for 4 tankards and \$7.50 for 3 nice marked plates. Got a lot of 25 various swords and daggers, some silver inlaid, for \$30. Also got 4 shields cheap. Two are engraved brass from India and two are Persian, gold inlaid on steel, one about 1½ feet across and the other about the size of a dinner plate.

Jerusalem.—The new currency for Palestine is to be based upon sterling, and will take the place of the Egyptian money now current. The Royal Mint will strike the new coins, which will be introduced at a date to be fixed by proclamation from the British High Commissioner for Palestine.

The Nebraska museum has purchased the skull and horns of a fossil mountain sheep from George Mitchell of Wauneta, Neb.

In the University of California mineral collection is a spruce cone completely changed to opal.

BOOKS WANTED

Any Family Histories (books or pamphlets), Town and County Histories, partial or complete sets of Genealogical and Historical Society Publications, Indian Captivities, Early Railroad Pamphlets, Charters, Reports, etc.; any bound volumes Newspapers printed in America before 1870, Books and Pamphlets about Overland Travels, etc.

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For Sale or Exchange. Ute Indian beaded Moccasins, Belts, Hatbands and Fobs. Will take cash for good Flint Relics, Old Pistols. Ask for photo of what you wish.—**L. C. Thorne**, Vernal Utah.

Wanted. Antiques, Relics, Old Letters, old written or printed Documents, Autographs, Stamps, Books, Pictures, Prints, Coverlets, Dishes, Furniture, Chairs, old Household Articles.—**W. B. Page**, Euclid, Ohio. 6-3

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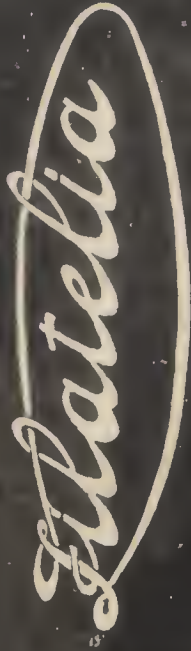
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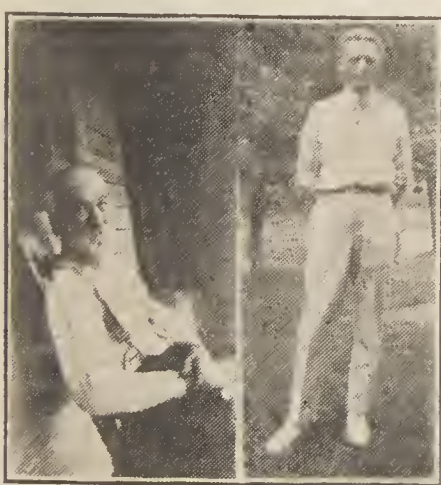
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Vol. 86 November 1927 No. 1



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3465, 3470, 3475, 3480, 3485, 3490, 3495, 3500, 3505, 3510, 3515, 3520, 3525, 3530, 3535, 3540, 3545, 3550, 3555, 3560, 3565, 3570, 3575, 3580, 3585, 3590, 3595, 3600, 3605, 3610, 3615, 3620, 3625, 3630, 3635, 3640, 3645, 3650, 3655, 3660, 3665, 3670, 3675, 3680, 3685, 3690, 3695, 3700, 3705, 3710, 3715, 3720, 3725, 3730, 3735, 3740, 3745, 3750, 3755, 3760, 3765, 3770, 3775, 3780, 3785, 3790, 3795, 3800, 3805, 3810, 3815, 3820, 3825, 3830, 3835, 3840, 3845, 3850, 3855, 3860, 3865, 3870, 3875, 3880, 3885, 3890, 3895, 3900, 3905, 3910, 3915, 3920, 3925, 3930, 3935, 3940, 3945, 3950, 3955, 3960, 3965, 3970, 3975, 3980, 3985, 3990, 3995, 4000, 4005, 4010, 4015, 4020, 4025, 4030, 4035, 4040, 4045, 4050, 4055, 4060, 4065, 4070, 4075, 4080, 4085, 4090, 4095, 4100, 4105, 4110, 4115, 4120, 4125, 4130, 4135, 4140, 4145, 4150, 4155, 4160, 4165, 4170, 4175, 4180, 4185, 4190, 4195, 4200, 4205, 4210, 4215, 4220, 4225, 4230, 4235, 4240, 4245, 4250, 4255, 4260, 4265, 4270, 4275, 4280, 4285, 4290, 4295, 4300, 4305, 4310, 4315, 4320, 4325, 4330, 4335, 4340, 4345, 4350, 4355, 4360, 4365, 4370, 4375, 4380, 4385, 4390, 4395, 4400, 4405, 4410, 4415, 4420, 4425, 4430, 4435, 4440, 4445, 4450, 4455, 4460, 4465, 4470, 4475, 4480, 4485, 4490, 4495, 4500, 4505, 4510, 4515, 4520, 4525, 4530, 4535, 4540, 4545, 4550, 4555, 4560, 4565, 4570, 4575, 4580, 4585, 4590, 4595, 4600, 4605, 4610, 4615, 4620, 4625, 4630, 4635, 4640, 4645, 4650, 4655, 4660, 4665, 4670, 4675, 4680, 4685, 4690, 4695, 4700, 4705, 4710, 4715, 4720, 4725, 4730, 4735, 4740, 4745, 4750, 4755, 4760, 4765, 4770, 4775, 4780, 4785, 4790, 4795, 4800, 4805, 4810, 4815, 4820, 4825, 4830, 4835, 4840, 4845, 4850, 4855, 4860, 4865, 4870, 4875, 4880, 4885, 4890, 4895, 4900, 4905, 4910, 4915, 4920, 4925, 4930, 4935, 4940, 4945, 4950, 4955, 4960, 4965, 4970, 4975, 4980, 4985, 4990, 4995, 5000, 5005, 5010, 5015, 5020, 5025, 5030, 5035, 5040, 5045, 5050, 5055, 5060, 5065, 5070, 5075, 5080, 5085, 5090, 5095, 5100, 5105, 5110, 5115, 5120, 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C. F. STEM,

2703 James St., Syracuse, N. Y.

Wanted. 50,000 Harding Stamps; 50,-
000 Huguenot-Wallons (1924) issue; 50,000
Lexington Concord (1924) issue, 1925-27 is-
sue, all values. Send what you have.
Prompt payments. Approvals. (send ref-
erence) Approvals.—Brooks Stamp Co.
19 Pleasant St., Beverly, Mass.

This for That. West Exchange X Ads
inserted at 3c per word. Minimum charge
25c.

Beacon Lights of History; Gems of Art, Disseminators of Universal Knowledge;
Monuments of Heroes; Records of Industrial Achievements;
Mute Witnesses of the Rise and Fall of Empires;
All these and More are Stamps.
ESTABLISHED 1895

THE PHILATELIC WEST

QUARTERLY JOURNAL WITH NO DEALING INTERESTS OF ANY KIND.

An Independent Publication Devoted to Best Interests of Collectors of All Kinds.
Includes the New York and Omaha Philatelists, Photo Bulletin, Post Card World,
Eastern Philatelist, Philatelic Bulletin, Juvenile Philatelist, Collectors' World,
Curio Monthly, Redfield's Stamp Weekly and many others.

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STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP.—In accordance with Act of Congress, August 24, 1912.—Publisher, Owner and Manager, L. T. Brodstone, Superior, Nebraska.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 29th day of September, 1927.

(Seal)

C. HOUT, Notary Public.

VOLUME 86

NOVEMBER, 1927

NUMBER 1

BETWEEN OURSELVES.

Next is our anniversary number. We hope to make it one if not the best seen in many years. Many already have ads. Many say, pays best by test. So get your ads in early.

Vallancey of Stamp Collecting issued two fine handbooks on his literature.

Adair, Denver has got out Rocky Mountain Coin Encyclopedia. Stands by itself in the manner of giving information who finds coins he wishes to realize upon.

Cleveland is to hold a stamp exhibition next May called Midwestern Philatelic Exhibition.

Glad to see more local clubs and societies start for collectors in many parts of U. S. A..

Fleming, Florida, says West is wonderful magazine. best out for collectors.

Our illustrations show dean of American Philately, W. P. Brown. See write up last number.

Deerwester, Ohio, says his first ad completely sold out his goods.

A. Hippchen, Chicago, moved other side city hall.

Mauck, Baltimore, moved to Rutherford, N. J.

Solmon, South Africa, says his small X ad brought over seventy replies, and every mail brings about half a dozen replies.

Forrest, San Francisco, says his ad brought over forty answers and still coming.

Lillie, Missouri, says West real business getter when you have anything to sell.

F. Engles, Seattle, reports his West ad sold out all his goods. There is no other like the West to bring replies. He has been taking it over 26 years.

Like to see each reader get two subscriptions. Get your own free. Expect to illustrate more in the next number.

The encased postage stamp was the invention of John Gault, New York, who in 1861 was licensed by an act of Congress to issue U. S. stamps framed with metal and a mica front, as a circulating medium. The invention of Gault was patented August 12, 1862. Gault and his partner, Kirkpatrick, issued during the Civil War about 150 different varieties in the denominations of 1c, 3c, 5c, 10c, 12c, 24c, 30c, and 90c all of them being already scarce and high priced.

Conditions in Europe during the great war 1914-18 and the post war times being similar to the Civil War period in America, metal coins went out of circulation, and as the currency depreciated, there was a great scarcity of money. Gault's invention was taken up and several issues of encased stamps put into circulation.

In Germany there was issued about 150 to 200 varieties, most of them in thin metal frames and back, and celluloid or gelatine front. They were issued in denominations of 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 40, 50, 75 pfennig, 1, 2 and 3 mark. Stamps of the empire, with the figure of Germania, as well as the new cipher and symbolic stamps were used. Though issued in considerable numbers some of these encased stamps are already scarce.

During the same period Denmark and Norway issued some encased stamps, which also are scarce now.

Last year (1926) we celebrated our sesqui-centennial anniversary as an independent nation and in commemoration of same an international exhibition was held at Philadelphia—an exhibition, which our press did not offer many lines, and which most of us never heard of. Stamps, two coins and a medal were also issued to commemorate this historical event, which otherwise passed by without much notice. Usually the American newspapers brag about their patriotism by blowing the brass horn and beating the big drum, but somehow I got the impression that they had combined to say as little as possible about our sesqui-centennial anniversary. And I am wondering why.

Compare to this a similar event which Canada is celebrating this year—the sixtieth anniversary of its federation. There are certain things which Canada knows how to do well. Among other things in connection with this celebration it issued a medal to be given to every school child in Canada. I will say that this was one of the finest things that could have been done. This medal will be cherished and saved. In years to come children and grandchildren will be shown the medal, bits of Canada's history will be told, and it will be the means of making Canada's school children—and their children—good loyal citizens.—English paper.

On May 9, 1927, the Federal Parliament House at Canberra, the new Federal Capital of Australia, was opened by H. R. H. the Duke of York. To commemorate this important event in the history of Australia special commemorative coins and stamps were issued on that day, and were distributed through the banks and postoffices, respectively.

The special coin issued was a florin or two-shilling piece, struck by the Melbourne Mint from dies prepared by the Royal Mint in London. The obverse bears the crowned head of His Majesty George V to left and the inscription GEORGIUS V, D. G. BRITT: OMN: REX F. D. IND. IMP. The reverse bears the legend PARLIAMENT HOUSE AUSTRALIA above, and ONE FLORIN below. In the upper part of the field, in a cartuche-like compartment is a representation of Parliament House at Canberra, below, incused, the date, 1927.

"HIGH FINANCE." PART III.

Gottleuba, short and rotund, everybody would admit, was a man of quick decisions and that he acted on them without hesitation. He knew where to find Victoria, his daughter. Had an inkling that she would not oppose him this time, so he packed his traveling satchel, and took the train to his wife and daughter.

Got there without mishap. His wife welcomed him. He looked at her quizzically, she pointed to a door. His real surprise came when on opening that door finding Victoria seated at the piano and Rauch, very attentive, turning for her the pages.

"How you come to be here?" brusksly addressing Rauch. Vi got up, and got between the two opposing men, showing not too friendly manners.

"Let me tell," interposed she, quite self-possessed. "I wrote to him to come here. I knew you two would make a deal."

"Is that so! You imp," blustered her father, in reality more intent to conceal his inert satisfaction.

"Run along, Vi, let me have a few words with this obstreperous young man, and you can have him afterwards." She went. Her mind puzzled, wondering on what her father was up to

"Rauch, you done me harm. Caused me to lose quite a sum. The worse is has become almost public property. You have to stop that."

"And if I do not?"

"You will," said Gottleuba, "I make it brief. You stop all interference and help me instead. In return you and Victoria can marry after this deal gone through. In the mean time be my confidential assistant. You get a liberal salary. "Yes, or No?"

Rauch acquiesced. Gottleuba scrutinized him, then the two men shook hands, and Gottleuba opened the door and called: "Vi. Come and continue to entertain Rauch."

At his office Gottleuba received a brief letter from Goliad Richmond, his American partner in various deals, informing him that professor XX eagerly accepted his offer, and was on the way to Buenos Aires to be welcomed there by Frontera. Also inclosed a cipher message. The contents deciphered read:

"I found my captain. Ships are cheap here, but would not trust myself aboard with that worthy and worse mate, and a rabble of toughest cut-throat crew. So I bring the two worthies on a steamer, whenever you give the word."

The cornering of the milliarden issue proceeded. Rauch in a way proved quite efficient. Gottleuba's suspicion was lulled by Victoria's assertion that her fiance would not dare to doublecross him, as he only energetically exerted himself trying to consummate the deal to hasten the day of the wedding. She had briefly told him, "No secret wedding for her."

(To Be Continued.)

GREEK MEMORIAL STAMPS.

One hundred years ago, during the Greek War of Independence, General Favrier recaptured the Acropolis from the Turks. In honor of the centenary of this event three handsome stamps have been issued in Greece, bearing a portrait of the general, surrounded by a wreath, and with a distant view of the Acropolis.

PRECANCEL NOTES.

Precancels are stronger than ever in the aid that has been given to them by the 1928 Precancel Catalog published by the Rotnem Stamp Co. of Minneapolis.

This book, just out, has done several things of striking importance. (1) It indorses the Stabilization Plan adopted by the New York convention in October, 1926. (2) It extends the Gates plan of condensed listings which reduces the space occupied in showing varieties of a major type. (3) It very markedly moves up to actual valuation hundreds of items issued before 1902 which badly needed readjustments upward. (4) It also cuts down prices on current issues which, since the last catalogue, have come out in floods and on which too high a value had been given in the 1927 book.

This forwarns something that is bound to come in subsequent editions of the catalogue; undoubtedly the perf. 12 issues of 1902, 1908 and 1912 will come in for a lift next year. Perhaps the owners of the catalogue will get to the perf. 10 1914's and the obsolete perf. 11s of 1917. All of these need attention particularly of the small towns.

Everybody who knows and those trying to get them, know that all these obsolete issues are not available. Thousands of items simply do not exist except in the collections or stock of a limited number of individuals. These men who have them won't let them out until the price is more nearly correct than it is now.

The tip on this is to absorb everything a person can get of these old issues every time they are released. Then when they are raised to their correct valuation, those who have them will be able to realize on their investments.

Precancels are getting stronger every year and the orderly publication of the Precancel catalogue the past three years has contributed much to this stabilization.

The Grand Duchess Charlotte and her consort, Prince Felix of Bourbon-Parma, are portrayed in two medallions on the stamps to be issued at the Luxembourg Philatelic Exhibition in commemoration of seventy-five years of postage stamp issuing in the Grand Duchy.

Paris—A dollar bill which he probably could swap for considerably more than 100 cents is owned by Abbott Buegeleisen, 11, of New York. It has the signatures of six of the seven men who have flown across the Atlantic this summer. When Abbott returns to the country where it is unnecessary to change a dollar into other money he will get after Lindy also.—Beals.

Mrs. Frank Howe, North Bend, Neb., has received from a relative in Prague, Czechoslovakia, an heirloom consisting of 300 garnet jewels which have been in possession of her father's family more than 200 years. The jewels include earrings, brooch stickpins, necklaces, etc., altogether comprising a very valuable collection.

GRATEFUL GREECE—"PHILHELLENE'S" MEMORY HONORED.

To the growing list of commemorative stamp issues, so popular in most European countries, another has just been added by Greece.

It is issued to mark the centenary of the death of one of the "Philhellene" heroes of the Greek War of Independence, a French colonel, Fabvier or Favier, who fought to relieve the Acropolis from the besieging Turk.

CHAMBERLIN'S SHIP-SHORE AIR MAIL.

August 1 the S. S. Leviathan left New York outward bound, with Clarence D Chamberlin and a service plane on board. The flight was to test the feasibility of speeding up trans-Atlantic mails by the use of aeroplanes when the ships were near shore.

Chamberlin brought with him nine packages, three letters, and a mail pouch (containing 916 letters). Some specially prepared air mail which Chamberlin took with him on board the "Leviathan" is contained in the blue, white and red envelopes (horizontally lined) with the 10c Lindbergh air mail stamp and the 2c White Plains issue of 1926. These are cancelled (Duplex handstamp) New York, N. Y. G. P. O., Jul 7 31, 9:30 p. m., with the year 1927 between the postmark circle, and the obliterator portion (which has the figure 4 inset). The backstamping is that of Hasbrouck Heights, N. J., 1927, (single lined circle) (machine cancellation), Aug. 1 12M., and seven wavy lines (flag) to the right, H. H. is the P. O. serving the Teterboro air field.

On the back of these specially prepared envelopes is printed in black "First Air Mail Steamer to Shore" with a bor. rectangle, and below this in four lines is "U. S. S. Leviathan United States Line Off Fire Island. Clarence D. Chamberlin."—Sent by Roessler.

West publisher made trip before and after this on same boat. Late last year and year before.

The last meeting of the New York Precancel Club was held at the Hoovers' Stamp rooms, 35 West 33rd Street, New York, on Friday, June 3.

For a club but three months old, it's pretty lusty. This club with 18 members bids fair to pass all others in activity. The enthusiasm of all is such that by Fall there is every reason to believe it will be the largest branch.

The auction this time was No. 3 of the Mitchell collection and No. 23 of the Hoovers.' It was a wow!

This sale had in it parts of Mitchell's Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Michigan, New Hampshire and New Jersey. There was spirited bidding on Louisiana, New Hampshire and New Jersey.

Montclair cart wheels and Plainfield dateds were the ones that bothered most. Most sold about double catalogue.

These Montclairs and Plainfields seldom are offered. It's clear that those who have them can get big prices for them. Also it's clear that the catalog makers are'way wrong on the prices here.

Anyone who wants to see these stamps hereafter will in the majority of instances have to look at them in the superb collection of Mrs. Foerster, the lady who has been burrowing into New Jersey for years and who probably now heads the list on this state.

There were other over-catalogue prices on Little Silver, Jersey City, Caldwell and Hoboken.

Another state that should be watched, if demand indicates anything, is Louisiana. Spirited bidding took place on Columbia and Monroe.

Paris, Ky., Westbrook, Me., Wichita, Kas., and Lexington, Ky., had earnest friends who went after them seriously paying big money to get them.

So assiduous are the members of the club that it was voted to hold another meeting in July, on the 8th, although all other local clubs have quit for the summer.

PROMINENT COLLECTOR VISITS PHILATELISTS—H. H. ELLIOT OF WINCHENDON, SPEAKS BEFORE KEENE, N. H., SOCIETY.

Interest in stamp collecting from the viewpoint of general collector and specialist was stimulated at the chamber of commerce rooms October 4, 1927, when H. H. Elliot of Winchendon, Mass., treasurer of the American Philatelic society, addressed a large group of collectors, the occasion being the annual meeting of the Keene Philatelic society.

Ralph H. Clark was elected president, succeeding Maj. Robert T. Kingsbury. Other officers chosen for the ensuing year were: John H. Boutelle, vice president; Mrs. Ina P. Hayward, secretary, George H. Sherwin, treasurer. Reports of officers were heard.

Mr. Elliot, who owns one of the best specialized collections of revenues in the United States, related the history of the various issues of revenue stamps and the statutes under which they were issued. Private proprietary issues which include the match and medicine stamps formed the basis of part of Mr. Elliot's talk.

Mr. Elliot brought part of his collection to the meeting, exhibiting page after page of match and medicine stamps which the majority of the Keene collectors had never seen.

Following Mr. Elliot's address a large number of stamps were sold at auction. John Boutelle was auctioneer.

There were many visitors at the meeting which gave promise of a successful season in Keene for the stamp collectors.—Sent by Boutelle.

STAMPS FOR COLLECTORS.

Parisians are beginning to ask if France is seeking to become the principal producer of new postage stamps. In 15 days the postal authorities issued a brick-red Marcellin Berthelot, then two vignettes in red and blue in honor of the American Legion and a three franc stamp of the old model but a different color. Three more new specimens are due this week-end, ostensibly to provide extra resources for the Caisse d'Amortissement, the autonomous Sinking Fund; but the Post Office, on this occasion, is making no call on the designers. They will be stamped "C.A." and surcharged—fairly heavy. But something much more severe in the matter of surcharging is promised for the beginning of next year when a new Caisse d'Amortissement stamp is to be forthcoming, the work of the well-known engraver Mignon. For this novelty, although it will be worth only 1 fr. 50 c. for postal purposes, no less than ten francs will, it is stated, be demanded. Critics are already suggesting that it is madness to expect philatelists to support such an "exaggeration."

South Africa natural interest as aroused in the Royal hobby is an International Philatelic Exhibition, which is to take place at Durban in July, 1928, under the auspices of the progressive Philatelic Society of Natal. This will be the third exhibition of its kind to be held in the Union, the last being in 1913, when the King acted as patron. Mr. H. H. Hurst, superintendent of the Natal Philatelic Society, has been in London to secure the support of British Philatelists. He attended the annual Philatelic Congress of Great Britain at Nottingham as a delegate from South Africa.

All Canada is excited over the new Jubilee stamps, says William Butler. Special coins have also been issued and medals have been given to children.

STAMPS AND BOOKS

To the reader, the student, or one who pores over the pages of volumes, there is such a connection between their hobby and that of the philatelist that quite often they are combined. To the reader who has not realized the connection between stamps and his books, this little discourse is addressed.

Not only from his books can he secure pleasure. In books he reads of places, incidents in connection with history, strange figures, strange animals, yea many things of which he has no conceptions as to their make-up, their appearance or their character. While delving into book-lore, a combined study of his stamps will disclose many points he has not understood. For, the stamps will show him those things. They picture before one, not in mind only as books do, the scenes that the book endeavors to portray in a mind picture.

This little address far from covers the ground but should act merely as an introduction to the connection between the reader and the philatelist and perhaps will bring those who do either, to do both, and to realize the aid that one is to the other. What I have said about stamps doing for books, so books can do for stamps.—Book Seller Weekly.

BOWMAN ON STAMPS—FAR EASTERN REPUBLIC'S STRIKING DESIGNS

Within a year two entirely new and very interesting sets of stamps have been issued for the country of Tannou-Tonva, a new Republic neighboring Mongolia.

The latest set, which has just been issued, replaces the original set of last year. This was the first set issued by the Republic, and all the stamps were of the same weird design.

The new stamps are very original. There are fourteen values, in twelve entirely different designs. One value shows Tonva huntsmen dressed in their best, shooting at a target with home-made bows. Another shows a native riding a sturdy Mongolian horse. Other designs show a girl working at an Oriental carpet, a caravan of camels in the desert and the head of a deer. A map of the country is also shown, with the Siberian and Mongolian frontiers marked.

SUZANNE AND HER STAMPS.

Another most welcome recruit to the philatelic world is Mlle. Suzanne Lenglen who prowess on the tennis courts has been one of the marvels of the world of sport. We trust she will wield the tweezers as successfully, if not so forcefully, as she has long wielded the racquet. Her wonderful back-hand drive will scarcely be called into play in stamp collecting, but the contrast between the live-wire Suzanne of the courts and the reposeful Suzanne of the stamp den, will surely afford some fresh material for the sporting cartoonists who have yet to picture her in still life.—Fortnightly.

The demand for different cancellation designs on United States stamps, which, according to some collectors, has grown to abnormal proportions, is well exemplified in a J. Murray Bartels auction sale. A feature of the sale was a collection of more than 100 stamps used from 1870 to 1876 for outgoing foreign mail and showing nearly eighty different cancellation designs. They represent several years' work by a New York collector. Among them are several of the twenty-four-cent issues, 1870 and the 6, 7, 10, 15 and 30 cent stamps of the 1873 issue.

AIR STAMP WEALTH—GERMAN SPECULATORS' HOPES DASHED

The return home of the German fliers who set out on Sunday in the Bremen and Europa to fly from Germany to America is a big disappointment to senders and addressees of the letters and cards carried in the aeroplanes' mail.

It is stated that \$18,000 was paid for the postage on the mails carried by the aeroplanes, and had the machines reached their destinations this would have been a small percentage of the total realized.

When the late Mr. Harry Hawker fell into the sea on his attempt to win the Mail \$50,000 prize for the first Transatlantic flight he carried 95 out of a total of 200 of a special issue of Newfoundland stamps in his mail. These were issued at \$10 each, and an unused one recently sold at auction for \$400.

Another of the same issue, presented for charity by Mr. Hawker, Commander Mackenzie-Grieve, the late Sir John Alcock and Sir A. Whitten Brown brought \$1,200—the highest price ever paid for an air stamp. Stamps on mail carried by Sir John Alcock on the first Transatlantic flight now fetch \$175 and were issued at a dollar.

Letters carried by Sir Ross Smith on the first England to Australia flight have fetched \$650. There is, too, a great demand for letters carried by Colonel Lindbergh when he was an ordinary pilot on the U. S. A. transcontinental route long before he flew from New York to Paris.

SHADES IN POSTMARKS

In view of the very great interest taken in postmarks nowadays, it is timely to voice a protest against listing extremities of shade, which have even less justification in postmarks than in stamps. Colored postmarks are all very well, may be interesting, and in some cases may even have their significance. First-day covers of the South African air-mail, for example, were cancelled in red instead of black. When, however, collectors or dealers try to differentiate between black postmarks and grey-black, or seriously contend that obliterations have been applied in white, the matter is reduced to one of simple absurdity. There are always a few people who will make anything absurd by their extremities. For goodness sake let us have no more of this postmark nonsense.—Philatelic Magazine.

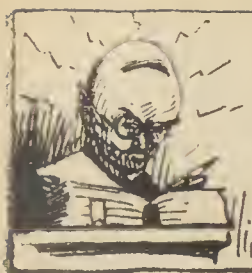
PHILATELIC BLOOMERS

The U. S. A. has a good record of philatelic errors. The 1 cent stamp issued thirty-two years ago on the occasion of the Columbus celebration depicts the notable gentleman so cleanly shaven as to arouse the admiration of a Mussolini, while the 2 cent issue adorns him with a Van Dyck beard.

While on the subject of Columbus, it may be mentioned that a St. Kitts-Nevis issue shows him gazing from his frail craft over the vast deep with a telescope.

A stamp issued in the United States two years ago to commemorate the American Scandinavian centenary portrays the bold Viking, Leif Ericson, and his craft, from the mast of which the Stars and Stripes flutter bravely in the Atlantic breeze.—"Star," 16-8-27.

Try ad in Collectors' Trade X Column is the place where you can sell, buy or trade most anything. You will be surprised at the returns. A fourth page ad reports a 1,000 replies and used no other paper. Best by test many say.



INQUIRIES



It is to your benefit as well as ours as when not sent thus oftentimes your answer does not reach me in time to be answered in the next issue and is consequently held over a issue. All questions relative to coins and paper money, curios, minerals, etc., should be sent to the editors of these departments. Owing to the large number of inquiries received it is impossible to get them all into print at once. Each must take its turn. At once we ask that you enclose a stamp and we will reply direct.

Anthony Kigas Jr., Worcester, Mass.: Concerning coin books, please write Gutttag Bros., New York. M. S.

A. L. Leffingwell, Frankfort, O.: I regret to say that I am unable to put you on the tracks of a dealer in old clocks. Try scanning our advertising columns. M. S.

Richard Cunningham, Furport, Wash.:—I have about a hundred old postage stamps which I collected 15—20 years ago. I think some of them are worth quite a lot of money, so I would like to know how to find out their value and, if possible, sell them. If you have a book giving the value of stamps, please send it to me or tell me where I can get it.

Ans.:—The recognized book on stamp values in this country is "Scott's Standard Postage Stamp Catalogue," issued annually. This book gives the current value (sale price) of nearly all stamps issued. M. S.

C. W. Bishop, Los Angeles, Calif.:—I have a friend here who has a large number of stamps, some of which he thinks valuable and would like your opinion of them, and has asked me to write and ask if you would care to examine them, and if so, advise as to whether he shall send them to you.

Ans.:—See reply above. The easiest way to find the value of stamps is to consult the latest issue of Scott's Stamp Catalogue. M. S.

Edward Hunsacher, Kewaunee, Wis.:—Will you please either send me—or tell me—where I can get post cards with portraits of our presidents?

E. Titus Black:—Have you any C. S. A. items to offer? If so, which, and the price?

Ans.:—As stated often before in these columns is the publisher of "West" not a dealer; neither is the editor of this department, and therefore we can not send you the desired items on approval. However, read ads in "West" and you will find such items offered for sale. M. S.

Tracy P. Hall, Binghamton, N. Y.:—Can you give me any information regarding English coin collectors?

Ans.:—The question is too vague to render a definite answer, as I am unable to glean from it what you mean by "Information regarding English coin collectors." If you by "information" mean names and addresses of collectors, I regret to say that the space allotted here does not permit giving such lists. Write B. A. Seaby, Ltd., Oxford Circus House, 245 Oxford Street, London, W. 1, and you may get further information.

C. J. Matheney, Custom House, El Paso, Texas:—Inclosing two stamps, one is a Washington head red 2 cent used nowadays, but it has letters L. A.

perforated across side of face and 2 circles joined and perforated on neck, don't remember of ever seeing this post office mark before on any of the 2 cent stamps. Also a yellow Mexico 8 centavo stamp, with bust of Hidalgo or some other man—maybe Benito Juaun, but I see in the West of May issue this same stamp in the art section of the Economist Co., N. Y. City, I judge they must be of some value. I handled good many Mexican stamps here and find any rare. Please return answer and stamps and I thank you. In a few days will give you a little bit of history concerning the bills printed by John Dunlap and Dunlap himself, also about the Sun Dial and thirteen rings linked, on some of the colonial bills which no doubt will enhance the value of them.

Ans.:—The initials L. A. on the U. S. 2 cent stamp must be the initials of some business man or firm who bought and used the stamp. You know such punch marks or initialing is permitted under certain rules by the Postal Department, and is used by business firms to prevent employees and others from stealing and using their stamps—to tell it in plain words. Such initialed stamps are usually not wanted by collectors—unless, of course, they collect just that kind. The 8 centavo stamp has no special value as far as I know. I thank you very much for the promised history on the John Dunlap bills. Please forward same at once.

M. S.

Thomas Delikat, Hillside, N. J.:—As you give no description of the old Polish coin I can not say anything about its possible value. The Polish and German currency is worthless. I suggest that you write Mr. William Hesslein, 101 Tremont St., Boston, Mass., and let him sell the items at auction.

M. S.

Dr. J. S. Church, Hundred, W. Va.:—I would like to know where I can get commemorative coins of the United States government. Can you give me any information concerning where I may be able to secure any of them. Will you please tell me what I ought to pay for the following: Monroe Doctrine Centennial, 1823-1923, half dollar. Columbia half dollar. Peace dollar. A dollar 1872 with full Goddess of Liberty.

Ans.:—In your copy of "West" you will find ads from coin dealers offering the coins you want. Please write one or two of them. They will ask but a reasonable price for these coins.

M. S.

A. Old coins may be cleaned with powdered whiting applied with a dampened cloth. To return the original luster of copper and gold coins, we suggest that you place them in a raw white potato and let remain overnight.

Q.: What commemorative stamps have been issued by the postoffice department?

W. C. S.

Ans.: The first were issued for the Chicago world's fair—the Columbian series, 1893. The others are: Trans-Mississippi "Omaha," 1898; Pan American, 1901; Louisiana purchase, 1904; Jamestown, 1907; Lincoln memorial, 1909; Alaska-Yukon-Pacific, 1909; Hudson-Fulton, 1909; Panama-Pacific, 1912-13; Victory, 1919; Pilgrim tercentenary, 1920; Harding memorial, 1923; Huguenot-Walloon tercentenary, 1924.

Q. Were the issues of the Huguenot-Walloon, Lexington-Concord and Norse-American commemorative stamps limited?

F. H. D.

A. The number of these stamps issued to postmasters were as follows: Huguenot-Walloon, 1 cent, 51,278,000, 2 cent, 77,653,423, 5 cent, 5,609,000; Lexington-Concord, 1 cent, 15,615,000, 2 cent, 28,019,000, 5 cent, 5,348,800; Norse-American, 2 cent, 8,668,000, 5 cent, 1,712,500.

SPECIALIZING.—By Mr. Miller.

A specialized collection should consist of both used and unused copies of each separate stamp issued by the country. He should collect pairs, strips and blocks, and even panes and sheets. Original envelopes should be collected, called "entires." The most difficult task of the specialist is the process of what is termed "writing up," which not only requires neat handwriting and judgment and taste in arranging the stamps, but also a mass of correct information composed of the following chief points of interest:— (1) Date of issue, (2) Permanent or provisional, (3) Number of stamps, (4) Town of issue, (5) Circumstances of issue, (6) Subject and significance, (7) Name of artist and engraver, (8) Line-engraved, typographed, lithographed, or type set, (9) Printed at one or two operations, (10) Name of printers and place of manufacture, (11) Singly or doubly fugitive ink, (12) Make or grade of paper, (13) Wove or laid, (14) Name of paper makers, (15) Safety, chalk-surfaced, pelure, tinted, etc., (16) Watermark, (17) Perforated, imperforate or rouletted, (18) Single line, comb, rotary, or harrow machine, (19) Gauge, (20) Large, small or medium holes, (21) Color of gum, (22) Hard or soft, (23) Thick or thin, (24) Size and makeup, (25) Number of panes, (26) Plate numbers, (27) Marginal lines or decorations, (28) Shade of color. This list is capable of addition or subtraction, but is an excellent index of those details which are necessary in a specialized collection.

Some time ago, an English young lady, discovered between papers and other old things left by one of her relatives, a few old covers with stamps. She was not, at that time, a collector nor had she enough patience to collect stamps and for this reason she took the envelopes to an expert stamp dealer, with the idea of disposing of them for any amount if they were worth anything, but to her great surprise, the dealer after examining the envelopes, offered her for the bunch 300 pounds sterling.

Until this moment the young lady never realized that it was worth while to collect stamps and refused to sell them. Really convinced that Philately was not at all what she ever thought of it, before the discovery of the envelopes, the lady decided to collect stamps from that day.

Collectors and non-collectors, we often hear of this kind of discoveries, so you would do well to look over all those old papers left by your old ones. It is very easy that you may find some real good values among them. As it was the custom in the olden days to keep letters of relatives and dear ones in the same cover in which they came, it would not be anything new that real good values would be found adhered to any of them.

So, hurry up and start emptying wardrobe drawers and old trunks, where our old ones used to keep their papers, in search of these real hidden treasures.—Philatelic Magazine.

CANBERRA STAMP

Specimens of the new stamp issued in Australia to commemorate the opening of the Parliament House, Canberra, by the Duke and Duchess of York have just reached here.

The design shows the new parliament buildings, with a female figure emblematic of Australia. The stamp was designed in Australia and the dies engraved in London. The Australian Stamp paper reports that 32,213,680 of the Canberra stamps were printed.

PHILATELIC PROPAGANDA.

The Capitol City Philatelic Society of Harrisburg, U. S. A., is carrying on some excellent propaganda work in the interests of philately. From May 16 to 21 they held their second annual exhibition in the Harrisburg public library, an event which proved highly successful from all points of view. It was only as recently as March 2, 1925, that this society was organized, the inaugural meeting being attended by nine enthusiastic local collectors. Already sixty new members have been enrolled. In the words of their able secretary, Mr. M. Roy Dieter, the society "seeks to encourage the art of philately in all its branches, and in this manner improve the minds of the younger generation, to teach them geography, history, science, and civil government."

During the course of the exhibition some highly interesting literature was circulated, including a little eight-page folder containing a history of the society, a most interesting article on the subject of stamp collecting, and one small paragraph of an informative character which may interest not a few. The latter explains that the portrait on the current issue 14c of U. S. A. is that of Chief Hollow Horn, an American Indian, a close personal friend of the late President Roosevelt and the only Indian who ever had the distinction of riding in an inaugural parade at the side of a president of the United States. Stamp Collecting.

A NEW NORWEGIAN SURCHARGE

The remaining stock of the 45 ore stamp of Norway in the Lion and Battle-axe type (both with and without the word "Svalbard"), for which there is no longer any demand under the new postal tariff, has been reduced to the face value of 30 ore by means of a black surcharge in bold figures, with the original figure of value cancelled by three parallel lines.

The correspondent also showed us the first Norwegian air post stamp issued in connection with the service which has just been inaugurated between that country and Sweden. Of the denomination 45 ore blue, surface printed in traverse rectangular format, it presents a view of the historic castle of Akershus that guards the entrance to Christiania fjord, with an aeroplane flying overhead.

At a recent auction a stamp ordinarily obtainable for a couple of shillings went for \$400. It was the five-lire value of the issue of last year, showing the Pope passing through the Holy Door, but in the stamp in question the middle of the design was inverted. An Italian gentleman sent a boy for four for which he paid 20 lire. On the boy returning he noticed the error and hastened to the Post Office to secure the rest, but he was refused, for by that time the officials had noted the error, and the remaining 46 were burned. Consequently, these four represent the only specimens in existence, and it is certain that the auction price next time one comes up for sale will show a very considerable advance on \$400.

CANADA'S JUBILEE ISSUE.

Postmaster General Veniot is issuing a special series of postage stamps to commemorate the Diamond Jubilee of Confederation. They will be larger than the normal issues, and will depict the development of the Dominion, the expansion of its transportation systems and various phases of the nation's industries and resources. It is stated the stamps will bring joy not only to philatelists, but to the public generally.—Gossip.

THIS IS A FINE PLAN

Forestville, N. Y., July 25, 1927.—Mr. Thomas H. Pratt of Kingsport, Tennessee, and I are giving a philatelic, get-to-gether and get-acquainted dinner at the Murray Hill Hotel, Westfield, N. Y., at 6:30 p. m., Daylight Saving Time, Saturday, July 30, 1927.

We would like you to be our guest at this dinner.

Mr. Pratt will show portions of his Confederate collection, which won the prize at the recent Strasbourg exhibition.

It is our wish that each guest bring along a few choice or unusual pieces to show around, to lend interest. Also some items for sale or exchange if he has any.

It seems to us that a gathering of this kind, if attended as we hope it will be, by collectors from Rochester, Buffalo, Cleveland, Pittsburgh and in-between places, should result in a lot of worth while acquaintances.

Come early as you can in the afternoon and stay late.

R. S. P. V.

Yours truly,

ROSCOE B. MARTIN.

Like to see and hear of other reader's plans and ideas. Like this way very much.

So far as we are concerned the so called dull season seems to have vanished, partly we suppose, because the modern collector realizes he must keep on the job to keep his collection up to the minute.

As the months and years go by it becomes more and more evident that all the rarities in the catalog are not priced in the hundreds and thousands of dollars each. How rare some stamps which only list a few cents to a dollar each are, can only be realized by the collector who tries to get them. Especially is this true of many South and Central Americans, a group which is rapidly becoming more popular. Its a fact that we have never seen copies of some of these cheaper and medium priced stamps.

\$480 FOR AIR STAMP.

An unused marginal copy of the 3 cents, brown, Newfoundland postage stamp, overprinted "First Trans-Atlantic Air Post, April, 1919," attracted many buyers to a London auction room. Only 200 of these stamps were overprinted, half of them being used on correspondence carried by Mr. Hawker on his Atlantic flight. The remainder were not used. Catalogued at \$300, this air mail stamp was keenly bid for and realized \$480.

To the enthusiast, stamp collecting is the most serious of all pursuits and it must be regarded as such, but the requests to the Irish Postoffice are often couched in very quaint English. Enclosing a check for £20.14s for stamps, a Zurich dealer wrote, "but, please, only good pieces. Also I entreat and beg you of being so kind as to pack them in midst of the bigger paper for the stamps may not be hurted by the mail."—Stampology.

PULLMAN PHILATELY

The list of occupations followed by Pullman car denizens steadily grows, says the Daily Chronicle. Up to the moment the prize for delicate touch on an express train goes to the philatelist who was the other day seen fixing his newest finds in his stamp album.

BABY STAMPS.

Stamp designers have had to portray some queer personages: Prophets, priests and kings, actresses, dragons and patriots—they have all contributed to the philatelists' portrait gallery, and babies, too, have made their appearance.

The best known and most extensive issue commenced on October 1, 1889, when the first baby portrait of King Alphonso XIII appeared and remained unaltered for eleven years. Soon after, he turned up on the stamps of Porto Rico, the Philippines, Cuba and Fernando Po. It was a very typical little baby that M. E. Julia engraved, with bulging forehead and serious gaze that made an instant appeal to every collector, in spite of the rather formal treatment of the design.

A much more vivid and interesting baby headed the Newfoundland Diamond Jubilee issue of 1897. It showed a curly-headed little fellow, who looked out questioningly at you from above a somewhat elaborate Victorian pinafore. It was the Prince of Wales, who has grown up to become the ambassador of the empire.

A chubby little unknown chap appears among the 1919 issue of Jugoslavia, and he makes a solo appearance in the newspaper issue of the same year. Monaco heralded the arrival of their baby prince in a very half-hearted manner. They merely over-printed the date of his birth "28 December—1920" on three of his grandfather's stamps.

The Bulgarians did better than that in 1896, for they issued three stamps to celebrate the baptism of Prince Boris. The young Queen Wilhelmina of Holland, when she made her first appearance on the stamps of 1890, was ten years of age, and therefore a little too old to be counted as a stamp baby, but last Christmas three beautifully produced stamps "Voor het Kind" had as the main part of the design the head of a child that directly reminded one of Sir Joshua Reynolds' chubby baby angels.

But the most famous baby stamps are issued annually by the Swiss government. The series began tentatively in 1913, being placed on sale from December to the end of February. The war caused a hiatus in the series in 1914, but from 1915 onwards these "Pro Juventute" stamps have appeared at Christmas each year to swell the funds to provide for Swiss babies.

CHARMS OF PHILATELY

Mr. H. L. Parkins, speaking once about the many charms of Philately said:

"It is an instructor in both history and geography; a relaxation for the mind; a companion for an idle hour; an investment that grows more valuable each day; and admirable teacher of carefulness and patience; and the creator of a brotherhood that is only bounded by the ends of the earth. The cost of a collection can be made either large or small, being adaptable to any purse or taste."

Now readers, show this to the enemies of our hobby, who say that Philately is a hobby of fools and for rich people.—? ? ? ? ?

Do you know whose portrait is that seen on the 1d to 10d stamps of Cook Islands, 1893? It is the portrait of Maeka Takau Ariki, chief of the district of Avarua in Rarotonga, usually called in many papers, queen Makea of the Cook Islands Federal Government. Makea died on May 1, 1911. She had been Ariki for about 40 years, and was a very intelligent Maori.—? ? ? ?

ADVERTISING CANCELLATIONS.—By M. Sorensen.

A very pretty and interesting cancellation comes from Quebec, P. Q., Canada. To right illustration of automobile, trees, etc. To left, above, in 3 lines: HOLIDAY THIS YEAR IN CANADA. In 2 lines, below, in French: VISITEZ LE CANADA CETTE ANNEE.

The same cancellation is used by western offices, but without the French equivalent.

Winnipeg, Man., Canada, in 3 lines: HELP THE RED CROSS.

Cairo, Egypt, in 3 lines: VISIT GOVERNMENT EXHIBITION OF EGYPTIAN INDUSTRIES, 43 SHARIA HASRCT, NIL, CAIRO.

It is claimed that we are keen to the value of advertising—I suppose we manufactured that phrase ourselves—but if that really is so it is difficult to understand why no use is made of the splendid opportunity in employing advertising cancellations. Some years ago different events were advertised that way, but I have seen no new cancellations for a long time. Some offices are running old cancellations, but as far as I know no new ones have appeared during the last year or longer.

As usual Canada leads and here are a few from that and other countries.

Saskatoon, Sask., Canada, in 5 lines: SEE MINIATURE POSTAL SYSTEM—AT THE—EXHIBITION JULY 25-30. (Some indistinct).

Prince Rupert, B. C., Canada, in 3 lines: PLACE STAMP IN UPPER RIGHT HAND CORNER.

Vancouver, B. C., Canada, in 3 lines: HOLIDAY THIS YEAR IN CANADA. Road scene, trees, automobile, etc. This cancellation was also used last year.

A fine cancellation comes from Quebec, P. Q., Canada, showing unfurled Union Jack, reading in English, in 4 lines: DIAMOND JUBILEE OF CONFEDERATION 1867—1927, and in French, in 2 lines SOIX-ANTENAIRE DE LA CONFEDERATION.

Auckland, New Zealand, in 3 lines: SAVE TRAVELING EXPENSES SELL BY MAIL.

Copenhagen, Denmark, in 3 lines: INTERNAT . LUFTFARTUDST . 20 . AUG.—2 . SEPT . KOBENHAVN.

Brussels, Belgium, French and Flemish, 2 lines each: BLANKENBERGHE LA PLACE IDIALE DES FAMILIES. BLANKENBERGHE IDIALE BADST DER FAMILIE.

Malmo, Sweden, in running wave line: OPPNA POSTGIROKONTO.

Calgary, Alta., Canada, in four lines: CALGARY EXHIBITION AND STAMPEDE JULY 11TH TO 16TH.

Prince Rupert, B. C., Canada, in four lines: DIAMOND JUBILEE CELEBRATION PRINCE RUPERT, JULY 1ST, 2ND AND 3RD 1927.

Vancouver, B. C., Canada, in four lines: CONFEDERATION PAGEANT EXHIBITION AUGUST 10 TO 20.

Same office, in four lines: WORLD'S CHAMPIONSHIP STAMPEDE EXHIBITION AUGUST 10 TO 20.

London, England, 3 lines in checkered border: BRITISH INDUSTRIES FAIR, FEB. 2—MARCH 4, FOR TRADE BUYERS.

Baile Atha Cliath, Ireland, in 3 lines: VISIT DUBLIN CIVIC WEEK SEPT. 17-25.

Brussels, Belgium, in English and French, each in 4 lines: SPA (BELGIUM) WATERS—BATHS RHEUMATISME HEART-ANAEMIA. SPA (BELGICA) ASUAS BANOS REUMATISMO CORAROS ANEMIA.

**CITY GOBBLES UP STAMPS—BOY, 14, MAKES FIRST PURCHASE AT
LITTLE FALLS POSTOFFICE**

Little Falls, Minn., June 18.—A 14-year-old lad, standing guard two hours with his 10-year-old brother, today bought the first of more than 20,000 Lindbergh air mail stamps gobbled up before noon in the old home town of the monarch of the skies.

Yale Fortier, behind whom stood his brother Clarence, passed \$1.50 through the window of the postoffice for fifteen stamps of the issue placed on sale today in three other cities.

From as far away as Texas had come requests for stamps, while one Minneapolis firm telephoned an order for 5,000. The reply was "wait, see if we have enough."

Residents filing through the postoffice purchased more than 4,000 in the forenoon, the remainder going out to interested purchasers in various parts of the state and country.

Virtually every state is represented in orders filled today.

Washington, June 18.—The special Lindbergh air mail stamp, issued by the government in commemoration of Lindbergh's epochal flight to Paris, went on sale today in four selected cities—Washington, Detroit, where the young flier was born; St. Louis, his present home, and Little Falls, Minn., where he spent his boyhood.

The stamp bears the picture of Lindbergh's plane, the Spirit of St. Louis. The initial printing was five million.

CANADIAN PORTRAIT STAMPS.—By Fred J. Melville.

This has been a notable year for Canada, and the events which have taken two Princes and the Prime Minister to the Dominion are celebrated in a new historical set of postage stamps. Earlier phases of Canadian history were represented on the stamps issued for the tercentenary of Quebec, when the present King and Queen, then Prince and Princess of Wales, were the royal representatives of the Mother Country, and their portraits figured side by side on the $\frac{1}{2}$ cent sepia stamp of that year. Other stamps of the series showed the pioneers Jacques Cartier and Samuel de Champlain, and the rival but inseparably remembered generals of the Heights of Abraham, the Marquis Montcalm of Saint-Veran and General Wolfe, the bicentenary of whose birth has been celebrated this year.

The new Canadian series has a somewhat American savor; the small stamps with portraits are not unlike the ordinary stamps of the United States, and the larger ones with views and maps are suggestive of the commemorative stamps of the neighboring republic. In the absence of the royal portrait from the series, the crown might have been appropriately introduced in place of the maple leaf or simple conventional scrolls of the frame surrounds. There are nine stamps in all, but three of them were prepared before the last elections, and their issue was delayed by political differences as to the selection of the portraits. These three stamps are inscribed in English, but the six supplementary stamps bear the word "Post" or "Special" in French also as "Postes" or "Expres."

Taking the original three stamps first, the 5 cent purple shows a portrait of T. D'Arcy McGee, the brilliant young Irish journalist and orator who, after starting life as a rebel and a fugitive, became the most eloquent defender of British rule, and the journalistic inspirer of the Confederation. He lived to

see its achievement, but a few months later, on April 7, 1868, he was assassinated by a Fenian as he left the Canadian House of Commons. The centenary of his birth was celebrated in Canada two years ago.

On the 12 cents green are portraits of Sir Wilfrid Laurier and Sir John A. Macdonald, who were for many years rival leaders in the Canadian Parliament. Sir John was the first prime minister under the confederation, and the dominating force in the conferences that led up to it. Among criticisms levelled against this stamp it has been urged that the companion portrait should have been that of his great colleague, Sir George Etienne Cartier, who died in 1873. On the 20 cents carmine another pair of portraits depict two pre-Confederation celebrities, Robert Baldwin (1804-1858), founder of the Reform party and a premier of Upper Canada, and Sir Louis Hypolite Lafontaine (1807-1864), leader of the French party. It was to this Robert Baldwin that our prime minister referred in his speech at Toronto last week, quoting Lord Elgin's remark that "he was worth two regiments to the British."

In the group of stamps the portraits of Sir John Macdonald and Sir Wilfrid Laurier are repeated, each on a separate stamp. Macdonald appears on the 1 cent orange and Laurier on a 5 cent purple, so there are two purple 5 cent stamps, one of Laurier and the other of McGee. On the 2 cent green is a miniature reproduction of the historic painting of the "Fathers of the Confederation" by Robert Harris, president of the Royal Canadian Academy. The picture is already familiar to philatelists on the 3 cent brown stamp issued in 1917 at the time of the fifty years anniversary; the original painting was lost in the great fire which destroyed the Parliament buildings at Ottawa on February 3, 1916. The 12 cent blue stamp bears a map contrasting Canada in 1867 and 1927. There is also a 20 cent orange "special delivery" stamp bearing a rather fanciful representation of the different methods of mail transportation in Canada during the sixty years. Set in a scene in the Canadian Rockies, mails are shown being transported by dog sleigh, by pony express, by train, steamer and aeroplanes.—London Paper.

STAMP SALES SHOW HIS TREMENDOUS POPULARITY.

Sales of the new Lindbergh airmail stamp have shattered every record. The annals of the postoffice department show nothing to equal—nothing to compare with the demand for the new stamp that signalized the solo flight of this unspoiled American youth. It is announced from Washington that in Washington alone, the first day's sales of the stamp ran to \$65,000, meaning that 650,000 of them were sold, largely to collectors and to those who bought them because of a sentimental or patriotic interest.

The stamps were on sale the first day, now nearly two weeks ago, at only four offices, selected because of Lindbergh associations. These four offices were those at Washington; at St. Louis, which he now calls "home;" at Detroit, where his mother lives, and at Little Falls, Minn., where he was born. A few days later the stamps were offered at all postoffices, as fast as they could be printed and distributed, with the demand continuing. In three days, 350 of the new airmail stamps were sold at the San Bernardino office, no doubt a considerable part of them to philatelists.

And incidentally, if you want the son or the daughter to get a better notion of world geography than they have obtained from the class room at school, get them interested in stamp collecting. It's marvelous in its indirect results, and the number of collectors is also a marvel.—Sent by Beals.

THE PARIS BOURSE

There is one subject that never grows old and that is the Stamp Bourse in Paris and while other cities, notably Vienna, have similar institutions, no other "bourse" has the fame of the Paris feature. Many descriptions have been printed of this open air market, but they are always acceptable.

"Printemps a Paris! Violets, Jonquils,, lilies-of-the-valley a-bloom.

The Champs Elysees, stretching like a wide, bright-sheened, glistening ribbon between its green borders from the Obelisk in the Place de la Concorde to the distant Arc de Triomphe with which Napoleon the Great memorialized his Grand Army and beneath whose everlasting votive flame now rests France's Unknown Soldier.

Brightly uniformed cavalry clatter out of the Avenue Gabriel, preceding the president of France as he leaves the Elysee Palace to make a visit of state.

And within the shadow, within calling distance of the palace, is the strangest of all marts—the open-air stamp bourse or trading ground of Paris, so different from London's equivalent, Birchin Lane, and otherwise without a rival

Here, within easy walking distance from the Crillon or the Round Point, is an ever-present group of dealers and buyers or exchangers of the postal issues of the world.

A tanned soldier of the Foreign Legion home from Algeria laden with French colonials to sell or exchange for stamps of other lands; an American collector-tourist buying at above scale through inexperience with foreign currencies; a Russian noble in straits working off piecemeal rare stamps of a departed empire; shrewd Levantines darting from one group to another with what would be postal treasures if their authenticity could be established; Old women who have knitted in the same spot for a score or more of years, their stamp stocks hinged on cardboards and displayed standing on edge of chairs that serve for stalls.

Here is the stamp market—the one perpetual postal fair in all the world; a fair frequented by professionals and amateurs; by wearers of honorary ribbons as well as by besmirched black sheep, by young and old, all devotees of the fad and science of stamp collecting."—MeKeels.

West publisher was here two days the first part of July.

STAMP WITH A SNUB

Postage stamps and the postal rates are the chief topic of conversation in Germany today.

The new 8 pfennig stamp which will be required will bear the head of Beethoven, much to the annoyance of Prussian Nationalists, who point out that it is a snub to Frederick the Great, whose head appears on the 10 pfennig stamp, for which there will now be but little use.

Good republicans and Bavarian nationalists, who have been using two 5 pfennig stamps with the head of Schiller instead of one 10 pfennig stamp with the head of Frederick, are delighted.

The eightieth birthday of President Hindenburg is to be commemorated by the issue of stamps sold at slightly higher rates than the face value, and the profits are to be devoted to charities. It is proposed to add a Hindenburg stamp later to the present pictorial series of ordinary stamps, and so that earnest republicans may not be offended there is also to be an Ebert stamp.

HISTORICAL AMERICAN STAMPS

Early in August the United States Post Office is due to release two further commemorative issues of postage stamps in continuation of the long series planned in connection with the 150th anniversary of the War of Independence, covering the period 1925-33. Both stamps are to be of the face value of 2 cents, and are to be printed in red. The one commemorating the battle of Bennington (Vermont) shows the figure of a Green Mountain Boy, wearing the distinctive coonskin cap, emerging from a pine grove with his rifle at the ready. The second stamp will commemorate the campaign against Burgoyne's army in New York State, which culminated in the surrender at Saratoga. It is understood that the design adopted for this stamp is a miniature reproduction of Trumbull's historical picture of the "Surrender of Burgoyne." This previously formed the subject of a rejected essay for a 30-cent postage stamp some 56 years ago. Yet the third special stamp is under consideration, recalling the winter encampment of the Continental Army at Valley Forge (Pennsylvania) before the crossing to Trenton.

Another impending stamp issue with historical associations is announced to appear in France on the occasion of the American Legion convention in Paris next September. Special postage stamps are to be provided by the French Post Office for use on the correspondence of the 30,000 delegates who are expected to attend the reunion, in denominations of 90 centimes red for postcards and 1.50f blue for letters. The former will bear the head of Washington and the latter that of Lafayette. These stamps will be produced by the French Government Printing Establishment by the typographic process, and will remain on sale for the duration of the convention only. The first design to be approved for the forthcoming French Sinking Fund stamps is the work of the artist Turin, who has typified the national effort towards rehabilitation by the heads of a laborer and a peasant, the latter framed in ears of corn in token of the agricultural resources of the country.

A picturesque series of postage stamps is in course of preparation for the Spanish Protectorate in Morocco. The six vignettes depict respectively the mosque of El Ksar Kebir, an ancient gateway at Laraiche, a well at Alhucemas, the Alcazaba at Xauen, a panorama of the city of Tetuan, and lastly, on an express delivery stamp a mounted postal courier riding at full gallop.

A portrait of the Emir Abdulla is to find place on some permanent postage stamps which are to be issued in Transjordan under the new Constitution, in place of the present provisional overprints.

New Postage stamps are about to make their appearance in the People's Republic of Touva, Central Asia, which joined the ranks of the stamp-issuing countries of the world only last year. The projected series is designed to make known to the outer world the life, customs and industries of that ancient, but little-known state. It includes types of the Turco-Mongolian inhabitants, a map of the Republic of Tannou Touva, natives at archery practice and mounted on reindeer, a yourta or conical hut constructed of bark, a camel caravan crossing the Gobi desert, a native girl weaving carpets, a herd of sheep grazing, a stag and a mountain goat, etc. These characteristic designs are attributed to a Russian artist, M. Olga Feodorovina Amessova, who visited Touva with the scientific expedition under Professor Bounak in 1926.

When life is dull and lacking spice Stamp-Collecting will make it nice.

STAMP COLLECTING IS FAD OF PRINCE AND COMMONER

King Alfonso of Spain has commemorated the silver jubilee of his accession to the throne by ordering a special stamp issue. These jubilee stamps were on sale for one day only, at a price slightly above face value. The profits were devoted to the Red Cross charities. The imprint on the stamps was "Alfonso XIII. 17 V 1902 17 V 1927." The King of Spain is an enthusiastic stamp collector. He has a magnificent collection, to which he is continually adding. It was owing to his efforts that the Royal mint at Madrid was recently equipped with up-to-date machinery for printing postage stamps. Spanish stamps are now acknowledged to be among the finest in the world.

Stamp collecting has been a favorite hobby of royalty for many years. King George of England has one of the finest collections of British empire stamps, containing some of the rarest specimens in the world, and he likes nothing better than to spend half an hour in the evening going through his priceless specimens. The Prince of Wales, like his father, is a keen philatelist and his collection is world-wide. During his world tour the prince received many fine and costly specimens of rare stamps and special stamp exhibitions were arranged in his honor at Bombay, Singapore, and other places. Other royal stamp collectors are Queen Elena of Italy, the Crown Prince of Italy, the Crown Prince of Sweden, King Alexander of Jugo-Slavia, all the members of the Belgian royal family, and King Fuad of Egypt. One of the finest collections is owned by Prince Hiroyosu of Japan. It comprises no fewer than 12,000 varieties. Ex-King Manuel of Portugal possesses an important collection of stamps, including some rare specimens of old Portuguese monarchical issues.—Sent by Beals.

FAMOUS STAMP COLLECTION CONTAINS ONE LINDY SIGNED

An air mail stamp autographed by Col. Charles Lindbergh shortly before he started on his history-making flight from San Diego to Paris, will feature a philatelic collection of W. J. Reed, 957 West Adams street, to be placed on exhibition at Boulder, Col., in the near future.

Reed has the autographs of hundreds of world famous persons and has woven them into a pictorial series that he has called "A Fairyland of Fantasy of Philatelic Fascination." The exhibition was displayed at the White House and originally autographed by President Coolidge.

In the collection, Reed has the autographs of seven presidents, practically every film star, one of the few letters that Commander Richard E. Byrd carried in his epoch-making flight over the North Pole, and other interesting items.

The young collector, an art student at Polytechnic high school declares it will require seven years before he completes his present venture of making a history of the United States out of postage stamps, gold and silver coins, masterpieces of the patriotic masters in art, literature, song and poetry. Reed has one stamp in his collection worth \$850 and many others ranging in value from \$100 to \$500.—Sent by Beals.

FIUME TRIANGULARS

The popularity of triangular stamps in general is also responsible that the stocks of European dealers are drained dry of these Fiumes, and consequently the cost has almost doubled.

RARE STAMPS BRING SOME HIGH PRICES.

Two choice collections of postage stamps, both owned by New York philatelists who have spent many years in their accumulation, have just been sold. One comprised the unique specialized collection of 275 copies of the New Orleans Postmaster 5-cent stamp, issued early in the Confederacy.

Mr. Knapp has been known for years as one of the leading collectors of Confederate states stamps, and his New Orleans collection received a gold medal in the research class at the international exhibition in the Grand Central Palace last October. The Scott company announced yesterday that since the purchase the stamps had been sold in their entirety to a prominent American collector.

Besides containing reconstructed plates of the three different printings, one of which was on white paper, another on blue and the last on yellow, the Knapp collection had the only known copy on the white paper issue printed one both sides and another unique copy with inverted imprint.

The other collection sold comprised the rare lot of early United States stamps owned by R. P. Lewis, a lawyer, and purchased by the Economist Stamp company of 87 Nassau street. Mr. Lewis acquired most of the rarest items several years ago and they have since advanced rapidly in value. Perhaps the finest single stamp is a copy of the 30-cent stamp of the August, 1861, issue. The last copy sold at auction was in the John Bister collection a year ago and brought \$3,600.

Another rare item is a pair of the 2-cent stamps, 1922, imperforate vertically, rotary press printing, of which the only five pairs known were discovered by Edward Stern, head of the Economist Stamp company, several years ago, and one pair was purchased by Mr. Levis for \$35. At the Bister sale a similar pair sold for \$450.

Other rarities in the Levis collection are a Baltimore provisional 5-cent stamp, on the original envelope; a 10-cent St. Louis provisional, on greenish paper; 5, 30 and 90 cents, of the 1851 imperforate issue; 5 and 24 cents, August, 1861, issue; the rare 15 and 24 cents, inverted centers, of 1869; the 4-cent Columbus issue, 1893, in the error blue color; a fine copy of the 24-cent first airplane issue, with inverted center, of which a copy sold for \$770 at the recent Lamborn sale, and a complete set of the blue paper issues of 1908.—Cedar Rapids, Ia., paper.

DEAD KING'S STAMP.

Commemorative stamp issues do not often excite collectors, but those just issued to celebrate the 50 years independence of Roumania are already at a high premium.

They appeared almost at the same time as the death of King Ferdinand, and one specimen, the 2-lei stamp, bears his portrait while the 10-lei has the portraits of the late King and his father.

They are being sold in very limited quantities by London dealers and some of the denominations are unobtainable except at a considerable premium.

SUZANNE, THE TENNIS QUEEN IS A PHILATELIST.

St. Cloud, France, June 1.—Suzanne Lenglen is now a philatelist. She has been buying stamps with some of the beaucoup franks she made playing tennis in the U. S. A. In four days she bought \$4,000 worth. Mr. Baldwin helped her.—Gossip.

THE PHILATELIC WEST

HOW STAMPS KEEP ME FIT.—By Dr. W. Byam, O. B. E.

Stamp collecting has been called the "hobby of kids and kings." This is surely a compliment, for it indicates to what varied tastes the study of postage stamps appeals.

The recent great exhibition in New York provided striking proof of the many ways in which collections can be made, and the ingenuity which may find scope in their making. We saw there general collections which had almost attained completeness, and specialized collections which illustrated the detailed study which can be given to a single stamp.

Collectors exhibited whose interests had mainly taken the line of historical research, and others who had valued artistic merit or significance of design. In short, the peculiarities of the collectors were exhibited as surely as their stamps, and so varied were they that it was obvious that there must be few among us to whom postage stamps do not appeal.

Now if a man can be interested his mind will surely be refreshed, and as stamp collecting brings with it no cares or responsibilities, and adds nothing to the labors of those around the collector, it must be a most valuable pastime for those of us in need of recreation to turn our thoughts from the stress of a busy life.

It was in this spirit that I took up the hobby just three years ago. I was in need of some recreation which would divert my thoughts and the end of a strenuous and anxious day's work, and one which would free my mind from worries likely to disturb the night.

My choice has proved a complete success. In addition, it has introduced me to many new friends, and given me some small insight into printing, paper making, and the many other technical, and, may I add, fascinating processes connected with the production of postage stamps.

I know no better recreation for those who need to have their thoughts turned from their difficulties or their ailments, and whose circumstances do not permit of more strenuous occupation.—Daily Express.

Miss Rosemary Williams tells us why she collects stamps. First of all our hobby is one that can be indulged all through the year, the dark evenings being an ideal time for the use of perforation gauges, watermark detectors, and the summer for classifying, mounting, and, with the good light, examining shades. One can learn a lot from stamps, because the album is like a picture gallery where scenes from history are displayed, and prominent people, past and present, are preserved. Many countries advertise their industries by showing natives at work, others give us a glimpse of their ships or the wild animals that inhabit the jungles and woods, while many great events are recorded in the destinies of nations. Literature has helped to make Rosemary an ardent philatelist.—Stamp Collecting.

SOUTH AFRICA AND AUSTRALIA

Time simplifies the names of countries as it does with other things. "British South Africa" became "Rhodesia" after the union of the southern states, and the title, "Union of South Africa" has been shortened to "South Africa" on the last two issues of its stamps. United Australia has never used the title "Commonwealth" on its stamps, but in this case its alphabetical order is not upset as it is in the case of South Africa, which we hope our catalogue compilers will now transfer to "S" now that the "Union of" has been dropped by the country itself.—Philatelic Magazine.

A NOBLE GIFT OF C. L. PACK TO THE COLLECTORS CLUB, NEW YORK.

At the last meeting of the club Mr. Pack was on the program to give a display of stamps showing original research work.

Owing to the enormous amount of work on his hands at this moment in connection with "Forestry" and the Mississippi floods, Mr. Pack could not be with us but he sent a representative with eight albums containing a collection of Brazil 1894-1896 specialized in the "Substituted Heads" on the 100 reis, 200 reis, 500 reis and 700 reis in 8 albums.

This collection owes its origin to the wish that Mr. Pack had to show the collecting fraternity that as much research work could be done with stamps catalogued 2 cents each as with the rarities of Victoria "Half Lengths" and Uruguay "Diligencias" in which he then specialized.

In making this collection Mr. Pack bought several hundred thousand Brazil of 1894-1896. These were sorted into groups of singles and blocks, and then sub-divided into perforations and papers. Some time before Mr. Pack commenced this work Col. G. F. Napier had drawn his attention to a different type of head on the 200 reis, to that previously known.

Mr. Pack made a special study of these heads and made many new discoveries. He then corresponded with the authorities in Brazil and obtained a lot of useful information about the manufacture of the stamps. It seems that a kind of "Beauty Contest" was held in Rio de Janeiro and four of the ladies judged the most beautiful had their likenesses used by the artist who designed these stamps, and four dies with different heads were made.

Transfers were made to the stones, and eventually one or more "positions" were found to have a "smudged" or damaged appearance and the workmen removed these from the stone and sometimes used a transfer of the head from another value.

After the stamps had been shown it was announced that Mr. Pack presented to the Club the whole of this fine and valuable collection as a free gift, to form the nucleus around which, he hopes, many other collections will be donated in the future.

This handsome gift was received with great applause. Philatelic Classics.

HINDENBURG'S PICTURE ON POSTAGE STAMPS.

Berlin.—President Hindenburg will soon see his picture on millions of postage stamps. He will be the first German thus to be honored during his lifetime. Even William II was not depicted on postage stamps.

The Hindenburg stamps are to appear in connection with the festivities planned for the celebration of the soldier president's eightieth birthday October 2. They will be issued in denominations at 5, 10 and 20 pfennigs but will be sold at double the face value, the difference to be turned over to charitable purposes.—Sent by Beals.

The backbone of Philately—the very foundation upon which rests its hope of perpetuity—is that great earnest and honest Middle-Class, the old-time "Stamp-Collectors," who still gather stamps for the very love of the gathering. They do not crave Boscowens, or plate Uniontowns—they collect according to the catalogue. They do not, and they can not, pay fabulous sums for a single stamp, but they are always prepared and willing to spend from 5 cents to \$2.50 for good, clean, faultless stamps which enhance in value each year.—Clipping.

A GEOGRAPHICAL JUBILEE.

It is a very poor set of shabbily lithographed scraps that Roumania has sent out as postage stamps to celebrate the jubilee of her Royal Geographical Society and to help fill the depleted coffers of that institution. They are sold on a novel basis, inasmuch as there are five different postal denominations from 1 to 6 lei, with a supplementary charge on each which levels the cost to 10 lei apiece; the higher the postal value the lower the surtax. On the 1 lei the supplement is 9 lei, and this stamp printed in violet, has an alleged map of Roumania as its device, a shapeless spot no bigger than the head of a brass tack, and a mere travesty of map-making.

The 2 plus 8 lei, green, has a picture of Stephen the Great (1458-1504), the hero of Moldavia, and the 3 plus 7 lei, carmine, depicts Michael the Brave (1558-1601), no less the hero of the companion Principality of Wallachia. The 5 plus 5 lei is blue, and bears a medallion with the profiles of the late King Charles and the present King Ferdinand. The remaining stamp, 6 plus 4 lei, olive, shows the monument to Adam Clisi at Bucharest.

The stamps have achieved their object in raising funds, about 2,310,000 lei, for the Roumanian Geographical Society, for as usually happens with stamps published in limited editions, even as large as in this case, 70,000 sets, the issue has been cornered by Continental speculators.

Of the ancient hospodars or voyvodes of the old Danubian principalities now forming Roumania, Michael the Brave is already familiar on the Roumanian stamp issued at the time of King Ferdinand's coronation in 1922. Stephen the Great is new to stamp portraiture, but there is a still earlier hospodar in Mircea, also called "the Great," who wrestled the Dobrudja and Silistria from the Bulgars in the fourteenth century; he figures with the late King Charles on a stamp issued to commemorate the recovery of Silistria after the Balkan wars of 1912-13.—Postage Stamp.

AN ENGLAND JUNIOR'S VIEWS.

Harold Hudson has sent a splendid little article, and in doing so sets an example which I should like to see other West readers emulate.

Stamp collecting may not be called a hobby in the sense that woodwork or wireless is, because it is not a hobby of action. A boy, when asked why he does not take up stamp collecting, may say: "I have not the time; I am too busy making a wireless set." But surely the chap is not occupied by wireless every spare moment he has; besides, in my opinion, it would not do to be always intent upon one subject. You need only devote a few minutes a day to stamp collecting, or on the album.

If you go to school you can always exchange your duplicates with your chums, or, if you buy them, call in at the shop on your way home. To engage upon this hobby you may have to get your tools out, but you do not need to put on your apron, and, when you have finished, clear up the dirt you have made by your wireless or woodwork activities. In other words it is a theoretical, and not a practical, subject. When you have a few minutes to spare, say half an hour, isn't it nice to look through your album, examining each stamp and noting its beauty I think so!

Harold has started on the right track, and knows where he is going. He has grasped the main fact about our hobby—that it is one for all times and seasons, coming up fresh and fascinating, when other pastimes lose their charm.—Stamp Collecting.

THE STAMP MARKET.

Every collector loves his stamps from an aesthetic point, but, if we may say so, there is always an added pride in pointing to a particularly fine or rare specimen which had been picked up as a bargain—exceptionally so if this bargain had been obtained from an astute dealer. To err is human, and we are always ready in these instances to extend a divine forgiveness. Others in exhibiting a treasure may boast of the very high price they paid for it, but this is only, perhaps, in extenuation of their lapse when the desire of acquisition overcame their habitual cautiousness, or that they consider the worth of a specimen is measured by one's desire to possess it.

Classics of all the world are increasingly difficult to obtain and priced accordingly. It is impossible and rather invidious to endeavor to enumerate all the increasing values.

The outstanding facts are:—(1) That superb condition is now regarded as a *sine qua non*. (2) That pairs, strips, and blocks realize prices incomparable with a single specimen, not only in imperf., but in many cases perforated issues also. How often one hears, "I have never seen a pair of this stamp."

Philately has lost two pieces supposed to be unique, viz. a block of eight 90 reis Brazil, of the Bull's-eye type, from the corner of the sheet with full margins, and a block of twelve of the 90 reis, slanting figures—both blocks used. The property of a London dealer, these were being conveyed from Chicago to New York by aeroplane. The plane crashed and was burned, and so the mails were destroyed. As insurance did not cover passage by aeroplane, the loss had to be privately borne.—Stamp Collecting.

BRIEFS—by Oscar T. Hartman.

Counterfeits have appeared recently of 10 pfennigs, eagle type at Leipzig. Main point is the missing of the watermarked paper, than the indistinct printing.

A rarity through inattention. At Beyruth through mistake of fiscal stamp surcharged D. P. was issued to the public in several hundred copies instead the 25 piastres postage stamp. Should become a scarce article on original cover.

A half-blind stamp is the 3c Mexico pictorial. Through some accident only half of the stamp was printed, and few got into use on mail.—Fremdenblatt.

With all the different state taxes on cigarettes I wonder why so few are offered in the market. Now is the time to save them. Easy to secure, why throw them away?

HOBBY OR SCIENCE?

In these days of modern hustle, when new schools of thought spring up over-night and it is fashionable to appear learned, one is apt to lose sight of the true nature of philately, and to regard it more as a science than, as it really is, a hobby. This is not a plea for "Simplified Collecting," but rather a warning against the all too prevalent practice of taking one's collecting too seriously. One of the chief attractions of philately is its power of relaxation, but if one is continually worrying over minute details and pettifoggling distinctions stamp collecting is bound to lose its value as a pleasant hobby and immediately assumes the nature of a laborious task.—Philatelic Magazine.



BOILED DOWN

ORIGINAL OR OTHERWISE

Stamp collecting can knit the nations together in close bonds of perpetual unity. It therefore behooves every one to be a stamp collector.

Stamp collecting is an interest which is not bounded by nationality or country, but, in fact should invariably lead to friendly feeling between collectors of all countries.

Buy something which is advertised in our columns—this makes the world go 'round and everybody happier.

Many varieties in wmk's are to be found in the New Zealand stamps of all issues.

I have here a 4d blue and brown pictorial perf. 14 wmk. reversed, is also known wmk. inverted and is very scarce.

The Bureau of Engraving and Printing at Washington, D. C., is the foundry where all the stamps we use in the U. S. are made.

More than 10,000 stamps, presented by collectors from all over the country, were sold by auction in London to raise funds to pay off the debt of the Royal Philatelic Society's new headquarters in Devonshire place, W.

Good stamps, purchased at right prices, APPRECIATE in value. All other kinds of merchandise wear out, spoil or become obsolescent.

Did you know that there is a picture of an electric light on a postage stamp? One such is found at the right of the 12 centavos stamp of the Dominican Republic commemorative series of 1902.

Look over one country at a time and see what you need—and order. Don't try to chase two hares at the same time—you will get neither.

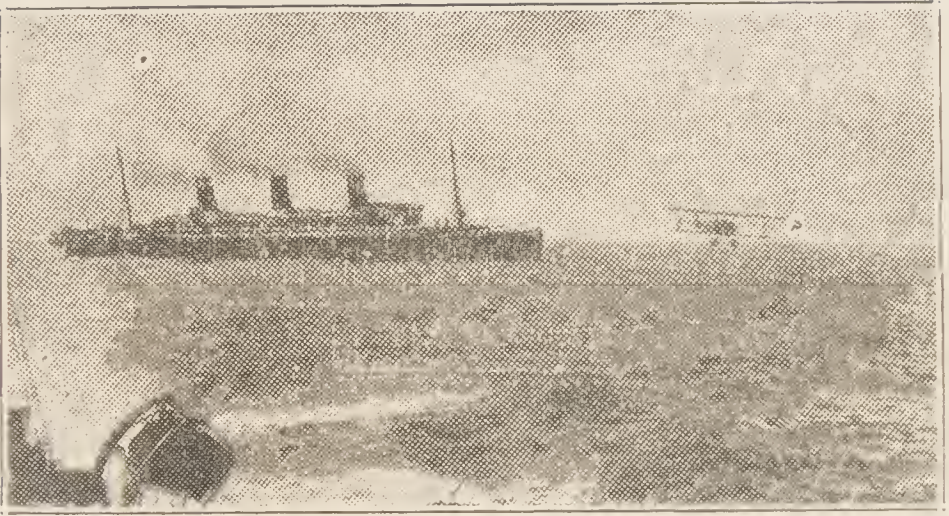
About a year ago Mr. New wrote an article in "School Life," a government publication issued by the Department of the Interior, with the title "Postage Stamps Promote Popular Education and Stimulate Patriotism," in which he made a strong plea for the value of commemorative stamps as a means of teaching history and stimulating loyalty.

You will never be a successful collector unless you can "hit with both hands." The West will assist you in acquiring science to land a knockout blow. We expect every reader to contribute his quota of knowledge. Send it along. WEST will pay the freight.—Sparks.

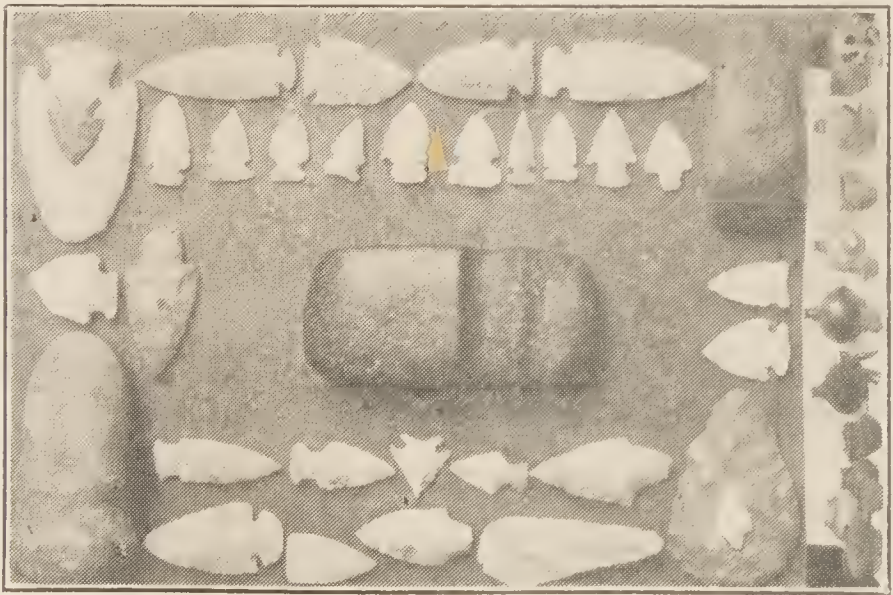
Science.—The Southern Philatelist defines a super-scientist as "A collector discovered filing perce en scie into round-hole perforations."

If every present subscriber gets a new one for us, then we will have the largest subscription list in America; the largest advertising patronage will follow as a matter of course, and the subscribers will receive The Largest and Best Stamp and Collectors Paper in the World.

An indication of the increased demand for classic stamps is found in the reminder that prices for the earlier issues are now those of good average specimens—equivalent to a general rise in prices, for these were formerly stated to be based on the value of stamps in fine condition.—Stamp Collecting.



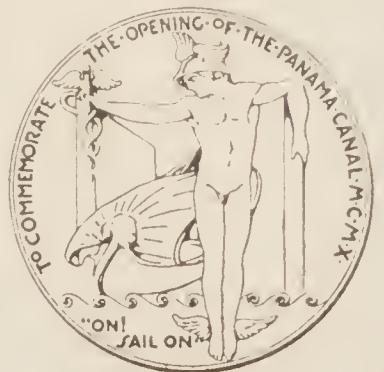
This picture shows Clarence Chamberlin leaving the U. S. S. Leviathan, August 1, on his way to Teterboro, N. J., with the first ship-to-shore air mail. While this now appears as a novelty it is predicted that in the very near future it will be just a matter of daily routine.



Indian Jars of Daniels, Arkansas, and McQuown, Monmouth, Ill.
Stone Age Collection.



President Coolidge in Indian costume made by Lyon Co. See write up.



California Exhibition Coin

Our Illus

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602

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789



The 374

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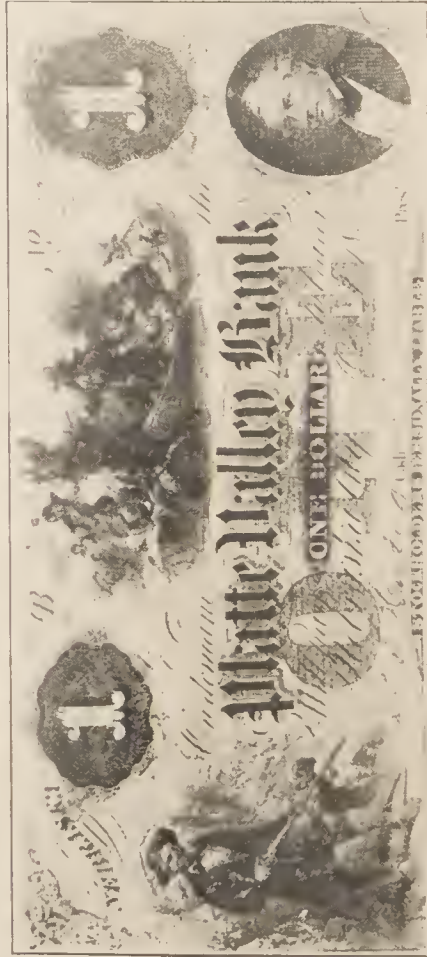


Plate 10





A Hippen and Children of His Form, Chicago.
See Ad.

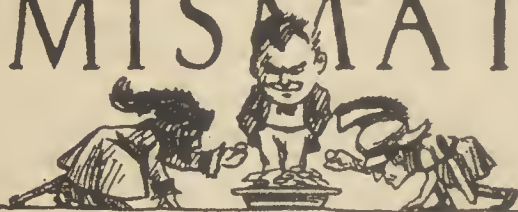


Nebraska Bill, Wild Cat Issue.



African Mail Rig with Native.

NUMISMATICS



Of all antiquities coins are the smallest, yet as a class, the most authoritative in record, and the widest in range. No history is so unbroken as that which they tell; no geography so complete; no art so continuous in sequence; nor so broad in extent; no mythology so ample and so various. Unknown kings, lost towns, forgotten divinities, new schools of art, have here their authentic record.

Please send us notes and clippings on coins, coinage, currency, medals, etc. We will appreciate such a favor and give credit for all that is sent. In co-operating with us in this way you will help make the contents of our department more interesting. *M. SORENSON, 1923-C AVE., EAST, CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA.

American coins were ever a good investment, and this holds good today more than ever before. American coins are steadily advancing in price, and certain ones are going ahead by great jumps. Only one is merely holding its own—has in fact been dead ever since its first appearance, and that is the Columbia half dollar. This coin was issued in too great numbers and this fact seems to have killed it completely, though it was our first commemorative coin, and should for that very reason command some interest. However, the supply of this coin must still be plentiful as dealers offer it for only 75 cents.

Compare to this the Panama-Pacific commemorative coins, issued in limited numbers, and note the prices asked for these coins; the half dollar, \$17.00; the gold dollar, \$8.00; the quarter eagle, \$14.00. Other commemorative coins are advancing in price right along. The one in least demand at the present time seems to be the Stone Mountain half dollar, which some dealers offer for less than \$1.00. The Alabama half dollar sells for about \$2.50, The Grant half dollar, \$4.50; the Missouri half dollars, \$5.00; the Vancouver half dollar, \$3.50; the Huguenot-Walloon half dollars, \$2.50, etc. The Lafayette dollar, which a few years ago could be bought for \$2.00 is now quoted at \$4.50. And so it is all along the line of coins desired by collectors. Our gold coins are steadily going ahead. Good stiff prices are asked for gold dollars, and some of the \$3.00 pieces are advancing fast. For the scarce dates are asked high prices. Lately I have seen an 1873 \$3.00 piece offered for \$175.00 and the 1875 piece for \$2,500.00.

It may be said that some of these instances are exceptions, and so they are, but all good coins are nevertheless going up in price, also foreign coins. The world war and conditions after the war were responsible for many desirable pieces going to the melting pot, forever lost to the numismatist. This is to be deplored along with so many other things the war was responsible for.

Two new commemorative half dollars have been proposed, one by Oklahoma on its 20th anniversary as a state, and the other to commemorate the opening of the Moffatt Tunnel in Colorado. Acts for issuing these coins have not been passed by Congress yet.

Besides issuing a new stamp, commemorating the opening of the first Parliament at Canberra, Australia, that country is also planning to issue a commemorative silver florin. If carried out, this coin will prove of great interest.

Several countries have issued new coins lately, and others have planned new issues.

Ireland is planning an issue with national emblems, but seems to have trouble in carrying out its plans. It has been rumored that the British mint refused to strike the coins. The anti-Irish element is concerned at the prospect of coins which will not bear the King's effigy. There has also been dissatisfaction over the suggestions on which the sculptors were asked to base their designs. The harp and the Irish wolfhound are the only two distinctively national symbols given them to work upon. The fact that even the shanrock is not included is specially commented upon.

Austria has issued the schilling. Hamburg and Bremen now have their own money, and Bremen even went so far as to change the name to dollars. Latvia brought forth the lat; Lithuania the lit; Poland the zloty, and Esthonia the estmark. New 200 and 500 piastre pieces have been issued for Egypt. Iceland has issued aurar, Czecho-Slovakia has returned the bucat to circulation, and Danzig the gulden. Hungary has issued new coins with a unit, called "pengo," in base silver, at a par value of 17.4 cents, and divisional coins, called "filler," in base nickel. These coins are quite attractive in appearance.

New gold coins have appeared from Finland, the 200 and 100 markka pieces. According to the new monetary system, the gold mark is to be the unit of value; the smaller coins will be the markka, 50, 25, 10 and 5 penni pieces.

Denmark has issued 1 krone, 50 and 25 ore aluminum coins for Greenland.

Probably because they have more of it, Americans wear out money more quickly than spenders in any other nation. They wear it out faster than they do their shoes, or the seats of their trousers.

The statistical wizards of Washington—and they are legion—assure us that the life as well as the value of a \$1 bill has been decreasing so much lately that its span of existence is now reduced to an average of six months. Long ago, it used to last about 20 months.

Every year, according to a recent statement by the Department of Commerce, the government manufactures 1,200 tons of paper currency, and this output is gradually being augmented as the demand increases. During the past 12 months more than a billion new bills have been put into circulation.

The situation is such that the Bureau of Standards, with the Treasury and the Bureau of Efficiency, are uniting in research to study and evolve a plan for making money last longer—that is, to give it more durability. In fifteen years the use of paper currency has increased 300 per cent. One of the reasons for this is careless handling; another, and the more important, is the remarkable rapidity of circulation. In the course of a year an average dollar bill, once placed in circulation, travels more than 16,000 miles and changes hands no less than four times a day. The decreasing purchasing value also shortens the life of the bill.

Replacement costs are tremendous. It cost the government \$4,000,000 in one year to put out new bills to replace the worn-out notes. Not only is the Treasury Department deeply concerned over this expense, but it is also facing the problem of making expensive additions to its huge printing plant, because its capacity for production is being sadly overtaxed.

The only remedy seems to be a scientific one. It is proposed to create a technologic research covering both the paper production and printing pro-

cesses. Experiments are already under way with regard to the paper output, utilizing cheaper grades of linen and cotton fibres.

A way is also being discussed of sizing the surface of the bills to protect them against abrasions and giving them a better resistance against liquids.

The Medal of Honor, the highest award bestowed by the Sesqui-Centennial Exposition, was awarded to the Sun Oil Company for general excellence of products. The obverse of the medal is fine and artistic, but the reverse shows a creature—supposedly an American eagle—but which looks more like a prehistoric monster wading through deep mud. Or it may be mistaken for a Nova Scotian whaling captain, rigged out for a trip north. The two sides don't seem to correspond.

A rare piece of "rag money" of the Civil War days has been found in a little New Mexican town near the Mexican border. It was found by a souvenir hunter looking through some old documents. It is the only specimen of its kind known to exist west of the Mississippi river. Its face value was \$2 and was printed on cloth; it was issued when Confederate troops occupied the town in the early years of the war.

The Denver mint was the only one which coined any one cent pieces in 1922. None were coined by the other two mints. The Denver mint turned out \$71,000 worth of one cent pieces in 1922. This was the only year in the last decade that the Philadelphia mint did not manufacture the one cent coin.

The Oregon coins of native gold, surviving the frontier period, are now very rare. Recently a \$10 piece brought \$1,425 at a New York auction.

Fossilized Indian pipe found in Pontotoc county, Mississippi, made from deer's horn. While one of our local dredge boat operators were cutting out a waterway's canal in this county a few miles from this town at a depth of about five or six feet they unearthed in front of this boat a quantity of prehistoric stone, shell and flint articles consisting also pieces of broken pottery and fragments of near decayed bones which were near past identification. This pipe, which is now the property of J. M. Watts of Pontotoc, Miss., was also found with this other material plainly shows that it was cut and shaped from the main trunk of a full grown deer's horn and beyond the greatest doubt this was once a pipe that was highly prized and used by some great Indian chief, either the Chicasaw or of the Choctaw tribe that inhabited this part of Mississippi before the coming and advancement of the white race to this state. This pipe is fossilized and is now a solid piece of rock in its original shape, as shaped by the red man, its owner many moons ago. The coming about of this material being unearthed indicates to us all that the bottoms, lowlands and valleys were inhabited by the red man years ago in this section as they are inhabited today by the white race for living, burial or commercial purpose. If our Earth could only speak.—Sent in by J. M. Watts, Pontotoc, Miss.

Columbus, Neb.—John Messing, sixty-five, retired farmer, is exhibiting at the mid-Nebraska exposition which started here today, a table fashioned out of 36,724 pieces of wood of 101 varieties. The table was made by Mr. Messing in spare moments. He also exhibited several other pieces of furniture which he made himself. Among them is a little chest sixteen by six by six inches made from 3,787 pieces of wood of 65 varieties.

THE PHILATELIC WEST

THE "RUNNER" IN ANTIQUES.

The "runner" in antiques sighed over the times when £2 to £3 a day was more easily made than it is now. There are more big dealers nowadays and so, perhaps, less room for the little man.

I asked him how one "ran" in antiques. First, he said, you got to know what odds and ends have a collector's value. Then, with a few shillings in your pocket, you went out and looked about you, up the by-ways and into the corners, in the windows of little shops and, maybe, into the doors of little homes.

The district hardly mattered; almost anywhere you might see some picture or curio that would be worth a bit in the sale-room. Having bought it at your own price of a shilling or half a crown, you hurried to the dealer in the West End, and you were pretty sure to have resold your purchase within the day for a pound or two.

There was the Mansion House print, said the "runner." He saw it in a window and bought it for 3s. Away across London he sped with his prize. A dealer offered him £1, which he refused. Another dealer offered £3 if he would leave the print with him to see what it would fetch at a sale. Later it was knocked down for £35, and the buyer was the very dealer who had offered £1 for it in the first place. The "runner" took half the £35—a good return for his 3s.

So there are plums in the "running" business. When luck is with you, you can make—or, at least, you could make in the good old days—£30 in a week.

But there are weeks when you make nothing, and once my friend was so disheartened that he gave up "running" for organ-grinding.

Then one afternoon, as he was playing, he saw a rare French print in a window. He went into the shop and bought the print for a few shillings, and before evening he had sold it again for £6 6s.

The "runner" becomes known to his neighbors as a picker-up of odds and ends. A woman came early one morning to my friend and said that her husband would soon be down to breakfast and she had nothing to give him. Would he buy a couple of old cups from her to help her get the breakfast?

The cups were of no value, but on a shelf the "runner" saw what he did want—Dickens in parts, with the original covers. They were rubbish, the woman said, but he was welcome to them for a few shillings.

That very morning he sold the Dickens parts for £3 to a dealer near by. A day or two later they were across the road in the window of another dealer who was asking £25 for them. In the end they fetched £127 at a sale.

If ever you see a 17th century map, look at the date, and, if that be 1610, you may lay out a few shillings profitably. Maps of that year are valuable because they are among the earliest printed. And there are "finds" to be made in Spy's "Vanity Fair" cartoons, Spode bric-a-brac, old pieces of mahogany, and cottage and early Victorian furniture.—London Paper.

REFUSES \$250 FOR COIN LINCOLN HAD.

Newcastle, Pa.—Abraham Lincoln had the habit of carrying in his pocket four or five cents, each with a hole so that they were strung on a string. One of them he lost. Recently Mrs. J. L. Underwood of Newcastle found such a cent bearing date 1815 in a field near Lincoln City and she has refused \$250 for it.—Sent by Beals.

BONES AND FLINT TOOLS RECOVERED FROM CAHOKIA MOUND.

Large piles of bones, decomposed to such an extent that many of them crumble into powder on being picked up, a stone scraping tool, and a few crudely worked flints have been recovered from the Harding Mound, No. 66 of the Cahokia Mound group east of Washington Park, by a group of men working under Jay L. B. Taylor, an engineer, representing the University of Illinois.

Large masses of bones, piled without order, and causing difficulty of discrimination of bodies have been recovered in the first twenty-five feet of a fifty-foot wide excavation. Approximately 100 burials were made there, but in this group is only one skull in anything approaching a complete state of preservation.

The mound, according to Taylor's calculations, is approximately 100 feet long, 200 feet wide and twenty-six feet high. The shorter middle line runs in a direction but a fraction of a degree off of a true north and south direction, while contours show points of the same elevation to be of uniform distance from the crest line all around, except in one corner where there was once a building. The crest line is 135 feet long. As the mound has a very narrow crest and steep sides, Taylor believes it originally had a pointed crest line.

The actual work of excavation has barely begun, Taylor explained, and it is possible, he believes, more worked flints or other tools of archaeological value will be discovered. All such stones are being saved for the museum of the University of Illinois, which is backing the work.

It was decided to open this mound this spring when the Baltimore and Ohio railroad, which owns the property on which the mound is located, announced its intention of destroying it in order to enlarge the road's neighboring switching yards. The U. of I. solicited Prof. Warren K. Moorehead of Phillips-Andover Academy at Andover, Mass., to direct the work of completely exploring the mound.

Taylor, an engineer, has done archaeological work among the remains of the Ozark cave dwellers at Pineville, Mo., and in the remains of the homes of the cliff dwellers of the southwest. He has direct charge of the work under Prof. Moorehead's supervision.

Complete charts of the structure and the location of the finds in the mound are being prepared by Taylor, to be kept by the university. It is expected the work will be completed in two months.—Bushnell.

THE ARCHAEOLOGY OF SASKATCHEWAN, CANADA.—By Dr. Drake

Previous to 1918 few stone relics had been found in the prairie provinces of Canada. The exhibit in the Board of Trade building in Winnipeg contained a few arrowheads, a very fair assortment of grooved mauls or hammerstones and a number of comparatively modern conical hammer heads. In the Regina museum there were only a few specimens.

In 1918, on account of the exclusive grain farming, the soil began to drift. In some areas the top soil was blown off to a depth of 4 or 5 feet, down to the hard pan, and in these drifted areas stone relics began to appear. One of the worst drift areas was situated south of Caron, Saskatchewan, a small town 18 miles west of Moose Jaw, and covered an area of about 40 square miles. Over this whole area relics were found, especially in about 5 different areas along the banks of small streams. Mr. William Forsythe, one of the

THE PHILATELIC WEST

original pioneers, informed me that when the land had first been broken up that these particular areas had been occupied by stone teepee rings but no trace of these remained.

The stone relics were found by walking over these blown out areas especially after a sand storm and carefully searching the exposed areas of hard pan. Sometimes an afternoons search would yield only 2 or 3 arrowheads, at other times 20 would be found in an hour. Very few finds were made on plowed fields, probably on account of the size and color of the arrow heads. The relics obtained consisted of arrow heads, scrapers, knives, drills, grooved hammer stones and broken pottery. No ornamental stones of any variety were found. The absence of bone implements was surprising but was likely due to the absence of ash heaps for their preservation. With the exception of one grooved granite axe about 8 inches in length no cutting tools of the axe or cell class were found. One pipe was found, made from fine grained, light sand stone, with a hole in the base as well as a stem hole.

Arrow heads were numerous. In three years more than 1,000 perfect ones were found by Mrs. Drake and myself. Following every wind storm a new crop appeared on the surface and from one area of about one-half acre more than 200 were obtained. The arrows are small, ranging from one-half to three inches in length, 95 per cent being from two to two and one-half inches long. The workmanship is the equal of the Pacific coast type now being retailed at from 50 cents to \$1 each. The materials from which they are made varies about as follows: Obsidian one-half per cent, moss agate two per cent, clear translucent agate three per cent, quartz five per cent, chalcaedony eighty-nine and one-half per cent. The longest arrow in the collection is four and one-half inches. All varieties were found but the long barbed variety are the rarest. Approximately two broken arrows were discarded to each whole one retained.

Small scrapers were numerous, the number found was the same as that of the arrow heads and the materials from which they were made was the same. Ninety per cent were about three-fourths inch long and an occasional one had an edge smoothed by scraping. In one area twenty scrapers about five inches long were found. These were made from quartz and granite and did not exhibit the fine workmanship of the small scrapers.

Thirty knives ranging from three to five inches in length were found. The majority were made from the brown translucent chalcaedony but an occasional specimen was found in quartz and obsidian. Ten finely finished small chalcaedony drills were discovered.

Nearly every farm of 320 acres yields a hammer stone. These were all full grooved and ranged in weight from six ounces to eight pounds. They exhibited varying amounts of work, the majority being nicely polished.

Pottery was found in small pieces only. It was dark, coarse and uncolored and the majority of the fragments were cord marked. Ten arrow heads made from sheet iron, a few arrows made from sheet copper, thirty large glass beads were the most modern relics found. A granite tube stone six inches in length and an arrow shaft straightener with four grooves were the rarest relics discovered. Scattered through a dozen small collections in the same area can be found about one-third as much material of the same character. Lately the land has been brought under cultivation again and no more relics are now being found.

INDIAN LORE; ANCIENT AND OTHERWISE—By W. Straley.

Mr. A. T. Hill of near Guide Rock, Neb., has built a house on his farm near town to house his finds made on an old Pawnee Indian village on his place.

Some weeks ago there passed away near Riverside, Calif., Fig Tree John, supposed to be over 115 years of age. Deceased's true name was Captain Juanito Razon, and was a chief of the Agua Dulce Tuba tribe of Cahuilla Indians. It is said he accepted the Christian religion some five years ago.

Mr. Andy Shearer of Frankfort, Kas., has many flint artifacts which he has ploughed up on his farm near that place, the latest discovery being a spearhead.

Mr. Harold Hartman of the Frankfort Index is another Kansan who has been interested in Indian relics since his boyhood days. They tell on him that at one time he thought he had discovered an Indian burial ground, but was informed he was about to exhume the remains of Major Lourey's race horse.

Recently Mr. William Oaks, while digging a ditch on his ranch near Vernal, Utah, unearthed a skeleton which is supposed to be that of an Indian. Stones, flakes of yellow flint and numerous pot shawls were found with the bones. Indications point to the locality being a former camp site.

Every now then some writer brings up the question of the origin of the American Indian. But so far no satisfactory answer has been forth coming. It appears that most of these pencil-pushers finally drift around to the old proposition that the forebears of the Indian reached America by way of Bering Strait. Perhaps so—perhaps not. The investigations of future years may bring a solution.

Dr. Neil M. Judd, who has been doing archaeological work for the National Geographic society in New Mexico, made his home in an ancient 800-room apartment house for over six years—Pueblo Bonita. The ruin is 520 feet long, 310 feet deep and formerly was four stories high. The work of exploration necessitated the removal of thousands of tons of earth and stone. Nearly three-fourths million pieces of pottery were found in the ruins, besides bones of turkeys, deer, bear and elk.

According to an Associated Press report, Dr. Warren K. Moorehead, Andover, Mass., has been busily engaged in exploring in the mounds near Cartersville, Ga., seeking etched copper plates similar to those previously unearthed.

Helen Hunt Jackson spent a life-time in an endeavor to secure Justice for the Indians. Her books and other writings placed before the American public the fact that the Indians were not getting justice and made a plea that some be accorded them. Just before she passed away she wrote President Cleveland: "From my death bed I send you a message of heartfelt thanks for what you have done for the Indians. I am dying happier for the belief I have that it is your hand that is destined to strike the first steady blow toward lifting this burden of infamy from our country."

Miss Dolores Calahan, Kansas City, Mo., is secretary to Dr. Neil Merton Judd, who is delving into the mysteries of Pueblo Bonita, Chaco Canyon, N. M., for the National Geographic society. Miss Calahan became interested in archaeology and anthropology while attending the Kansas City high school and won the appointment to the secretarial post because of her ability to

drive various makes of automobiles, shoot accurately and being an excellent horsewoman as well as a pains taking archaeologist.

The Aborigines of tropical America made a syrup of the fern, which they used for pulmonary and other internal ills.

According to a report in the New Orleans News-Item, several boys, while exploring the region of the flooded area near Augusta, Ark., recently discovered what proved to be an Indian burial mound. Upon opening same the skeleton of an adult male was found together with a number of arrowheads and pieces of pottery. The boys stated that they also found a large pot at the head of the skeleton, which pointed east. Hundreds of the inhabitants viewed the find.

Mr. R. W. Wehrle has presented the Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia, a skull of an Indian with an obsidian arrowhead firmly embedded therein, so states the Public Ledger of that city. The specimen was found in California.

A COLLECTOR'S ESSAYS—"LANES OF MEMORY."—By Hellman.

Mr. Hellman calls himself a collector; but from his own pages he would seem to approximate rather to what we should call a dealer. It is an odd profession, this, of continually buying rare, beautiful, or curious things and then putting on them a money value. It needs intelligence, some taste, and more of that odd power to direct taste so that the men with much money shall be induced to believe that what you say is valuable is so. For in this collectors' world values are very capricious. Why are theological books so rarely valuable? Why should fashion send up the prices of Raeburn, of Thomas Lawrence, and leave other painters' works of poor account in the market? Mr. Hellman shows no signs of original taste, or of any boldness in collecting or appraising. He has, however, a nose for a good thing, and promptness and certainty. For instance, he tells a story of a man he saw in a book shop:

"He had with him a number of manuscripts, for which he asked \$250. They were relics of old days, gifts from their authors. Happening to be present, I drew A. J. Bowden, the manager of the store, aside and made an offer of thrice the sum asked for these manuscripts. Both transactions were concluded within a few moments, and I went away with Emerson's "Concord Hymn," Longfellow's "Excelsior," Bryant's "Thanatopsis," and five remarkable letters of Poe—some of them quartos and folios. Within an hour "Thanatopsis" was sold (for the third time in one day), but this time to a private collector for \$675."

It evidently does not occur to Mr. Hellman that many people will find this episode sordid, just as it did not occur to him to tell the "white-haired man who in his youth had been a friend of Bryant and of Emerson" that he was asking too little for his treasures. Mr. Hellman is pleasanter reading in his chapter on the Americans in France during the war and the very entertaining essay on some very dangerous bridge play.—London paper.

THE INDIANS' BIBLE SIGNED BY MR. BALDWIN.

At the station Mr. Baldwin was greeted by representatives of the Six Nations (Indians), at whose request he signed the Queen Anne Bible belonging to the tribe, in which the late King Edward, King George, the present Prince of Wales, and all the Governors-General of Canada has placed their signatures.

MICHIGAN EDITOR'S HOBBY IS GUNS AND BEHIND EVERY WEAPON IN HIS COLLECTION IS A STORY.

Guns have been the hobby of Ira Adams, of the Charlevoix, Mich., Sentinel, since he was fourteen years old. In the collection, which stands in cases behind his desk in his newspaper office, are more than 250 specimens, dating from the torch lock guns of 400 years ago to the most modern rifles, automatics and revolvers. He has in a handsome mahogany box the guns that William Livingstone, famous explorer, carried with him to Africa.

The boys of Charlevoix visit the Sentinel office at all hours of the day to see what to the male youth of the species is an enthralling collection. Summer tourists keep Mr. Adams busy showing his treasures. If anyone is interested, whether local small boy or wealthy visitor from Chicago or St. Louis, Mr. Adams is always willing to go to the glass cases and take from them the choicest specimens for inspection. After each handling of the weapons it is noticeable that the exposed metal parts are carefully wiped with a silk handkerchief.

The barrels of the Livingstone guns are of metal treated to resist rust. They can be left in salt water several hours without injury. These guns antedate high explosives and smokeless powder and so, in order to kill lions, tigers, elephants and other big game, shot a two-ounce bullet. Mr. Livingstone's cannister of powder and his whalebone ramrod repose beside his weapons in the plush-lined case. Mr. Adams has a standing offer of \$1,000 for one of the big guns.

Dueling pistols used in the last duel fought in the United States are among the high spots in the collection. This encounter took place in 1849 on the shore of Lake Merced, near Santa Barbara, Calif.

Another weapon that catches the eye is a 45-caliber frontier gun from Tombstone, Ariz., that has the peculiarity of declining to remain cocked. This, says the owner, was because the western gunmen shot too rapidly to want a pistol that would remain cocked. Instead their quick-fire weapons were "fanned"—which means that the thumb jerked back the trigger for each shot that was fired.

The collection includes Filipino bolos, beheading axes, Japanese two-handed swords, the cannon made for the Lincoln club in Chicago and used in the two Lincoln campaigns, armor and even such humble instruments of personal warfare as the Irish Shillelah. This particular shillelah was sent from Ireland to Comiskey, the baseball magnate, for St. Patrick's day fourteen years ago.—Detroit News.

YOUNG NATURALIST COLLECTS HUNDREDS OF INSECT SPECIES

Irvin Schlesselman, Cedar Rapids, Ia., sixteen years old, was virtually born with a hobby. He began collecting insects at such an early age that he can think of no definite reason for choosing his favorite pursuit except that he just always liked to wander out into the fields in search of new material. "When I was a little boy and lived on a farm," Irvin said, "I would go out with father and mother into the fields and catch grasshoppers and put them in my pockets to carry home." This young naturalist, however, soon began to center his interest on the collection of moths and butterflies of which he has a remarkable variety.

Irvin has 130 different species of moths and butterflies, and from 400 to 500 butterflies and moths all together. He has Cecropia, Polyphemus, Luna,

Io and Promethe moths besides many small moths which he says must be rare because he has looked in many books and can find no reference to them.

"I use Holland's butterfly and moth books," he said, "and many other books on the subject to find out where the different species live, how to find them and what they eat. Then I go out and catch them with a butterfly net which I make out of an old broom handle and some cheese cloth. I take a collecting box along which I have made out of a cigar box and painted red, since it contains gasoline, and this I strap over my shoulders with an old belt."

After Irvin has caught his winged victim he incidently gives it a good dry cleaning with the gasoline which in reality is used to kill the butterfly in a painless way. He then takes his prize home, mounts it on a piece of cork, puts weights on the wings until they dry, a process which takes from three days to week, and puts it in a case.

"Sometimes I go out at night," the young collector continued, "with a sugar mixture made of brown sugar, water and vinegar, or stale beer if I can get it, and put this mixture on a tree. This attracts the moths and when they come near it I can catch them.

"I raised about 500 large moths last year and 125 of one species of butterfly. I had a female moth but not a male so one night I tied the female outside with a soft cotton thread and in the morning a male moth of the same species was there with her."

Irvin and his father have made a series of cages in which the caterpillars grow from six to eight weeks, eating the leaves which protrude up into the cages from the narrow opening at the bottom. These leaves are in bottles of water which rest on the ground below and they are kept fresh in that way. When the growing period is over the fuzzy larva spin their cocoons on the leaves and hatch the next year.

One might almost say that Irvin lives surrounded by his small subjects. Next to his bedroom he has a small museum of his own which contains his cases of butterflies and moths, mounted bats, a unique collection of rocks, many odd shells, mounted beetles, dragon flies and wasp nests. Besides these, scattered about the rooms and hanging from the windows are the sprays of cocoons which must be kept cool in the winter so that they will not hatch before their food plants are ready in the spring.

"There are about fifteen boys my age who are also collectors," Irvin said. "George and Paul Nissen collected with me last season and have nice collections of their own. I think I'd like to start mounting birds next."

Irvin, however, has the largest and most varied collection of this young group of naturalists. Besides his many specimens at home, some of his collection may be seen in small museum at the McKinley library. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Schlesselman, 1806 Seventh avenue, and is in the ninth-A at McKinley junior high school.

EFFICACIOUS

The latest craze for collecting witch-balls brings me a letter from an artist, who tells me that Mr. James McBey, the famous etcher, is a fervent believer in the efficacy of their power.

He is Scotch and superstitious, and has suspended witch-balls, which are a survival of German medievalism, from the ceiling of every room in the house.

BUYS GREAT COLLECTION

40,000 Pieces, Include Historic Jewelry, Precious Stones and Mineral Samples.

F. M. Ruggles of Toronto, Canada, has purchased the entire Henry Morgenthau collection of historic jewelry, precious stones and mineral samples, comprising 40,000 pieces in all and insured by Lloyd's for \$100,000.

The purchase was made from trust company executors of the estate, Belle M. Morgenthau, principal beneficiary. The collection was thrown on the market through the death of Mengo L. Morgenthau, a brother of the collector, who inherited it at the latter's death.

Henry Morgenthau was for a considerable period American ambassador to Turkey. Collecting became a passion with him even in early life and when he acquired money and independence he pursued his hobby all over the earth, paying expert agents to assist him. The collection is said to be the finest of its kind in the world. Mr. Ruggles brought just a few samples of it with him to Toronto. The rest of it will be shipped here in six weeks' time and will be on display here.

Five-Pound Nugget.

One of the samples Mr. Ruggles brought with him is a five-pound gold nugget from Plumas county, California. Its value in gold is \$1,648 and because of its uniqueness he has been offered \$10,000. There are many gold nugget chains and a watch whose workmanship appears to be seventeenth century English. About thirty gold coins of different countries and periods strung together are interesting individually. An old English snuff box, gold inlaid, has particular charm, and a very large aquamarine shimmeringly cut. Some samples of Chinese jade are not so good.

"What I have here," stated Mr. Ruggles, "is not even a suggestion. "The collection in its mineral samples has been so carefully chosen as to give a history of all minerals and a history of all the precious stones in its samples of these. There are over 400 cases of mineral specimens I haven't opened yet. There is a big box of prehistoric jewelry. Tiffany, of New York, offered a large sum for seventy-six pieces of it, but the collection, according to the will, had to be sold in toto. There is a steel chest full of precious stones, a collection of watches, some of them over 300 years old, a collection of amber from all parts of the world, and a quartz crystal weighing over 400 pounds. All of the 40,000 pieces are properly indexed.

Sought by Americans.

"When it was given out that the collection was sold to a Canadian offers from rich Americans began to pour in to keep it in the United States. The answer of the executors of the estate was that the American public had had three months of opportunity to buy it."

Mr. Ruggles feels that the department of customs at Ottawa ought to let the collection enter Canada free and has already taken the matter up with them.—Sent by Adams.

THE FOUNDATION OF COLLECTING

I collect anybody and everybody. If I have the money I will buy to the extent of it, and if I have it not, why I just have to wait.

But my collecting must have a basis of real merit in it. I will not buy a first edition of a book just because it is a first edition. It must have a real literary value, as I see and understand it. That is the foundation of real book collecting.

LYON CURIO STORE FURNISHED INDIAN HEADDRESS FOR PRESIDENT

The war bonnet, recently presented to President Coolidge, was made under the direction of Ray O. Lyon of the Lyon Curio Store at Clinton. It was one of the finest pieces of Indian work ever made and Mr. Lyon feels highly complimented over the publicity his work has received.

The bonnet was composed of 98 picked white, black tipped eagle feathers, contained 180 eagle plumes, was made with double trail of buckskin finely beaded and decorated. This headdress is valued at \$2,500.00 and is supposed to be the finest bonnet ever made by the Sioux Indians on Pine Ridge reservation. The bonnet was presented to President Coolidge by Rosebud Yellow Robe, daughter of Chief Yellow Robe, who conducted the ceremony assisted by Henry Standing Bear. This headdress was designed by Ray O. Lyon of the Lyon Curio Store, Clinton, Nebraska, and was made by Pretty Bull and White Thunder, both being Sioux Indians of the Pine Ridge reservation. Mr. Lyon also furnished the bonnets and costumes worn by Yellow Robe and Standing Bear who conducted the ceremony. This bonnet was trimmed with white ermine and otter fur. He also furnished the war bonnet and trail that was presented to Gov. Al Smith of New York by the Boy Scouts of that state a few months ago. Also furnished the pipe bag and peace pipe that was presented to the president of Germany by Joe Miller of the 101 Ranch Wild West Show. See Lyon ad.

"BLUE BOY'S" OWNER DEAD.

A fortnight ago we had occasion to refer to the "Blue Boy" of Gainsborough. On the Monday after, that is on May 23, the owner of that famous picture, Mr. Henry E. Huntingdon, passed away. It was almost a tragic coincidence. Although Mr. Huntingdon was not claimed as a stamp collector, we have reason to believe that he was on the point of adding philately to his many other interests. He was, of course, a multi-millionaire, and between 1911 and 1917 spent nearly \$6,000,000 on old curios and beautiful books. He bought the Duke of Devonshire's private library in 1914 for \$1,000,000, and his great collection of literary works has been valued at over \$10,000,000. The "Blue Boy" cost him \$750,000, which is considerably more than a hundred times the sum paid twenty-three years ago for the most famous "Blue Queen" of postage stamps--the 2d "Post Office" Mauritius secured in a London auction by King George.—Stamp collecting.

West publisher used to see him at stamp dealers, New York place. Dealer used to be at Omaha.

"BUFFALO BILL" MUSEUM OPENED

Cody, Wyo.—The Buffalo Bill Museum named in memory of the world-famed scout, Col. William F. Cody, was dedicated recently in this town, which he founded.

The museum, a replica of the old ranch home of Buffalo Bill, is located on a site granted by the state, a virgin mesa, still traversed by the cow and sheep trails of pioneer days. The region is one of historic interest as well as of natural beauty.

Relics from all parts of the world are being collected to make this a historical center, a record of the west country, and a commemoration of the feats performed by the pioneers on the western frontier. The museum was built by Cody citizens and the Cody family. It will also house the relics and mementoes collected by the famous scout.—New Age.

MONS MEDAL FOR A DOLLAR

This notice, in a London Strand shop window represented the top price asked for a Mons medal of no special sentimental value exhibited there. Victoria crosses fetch from \$125 to \$750 each, according to their history. The dealer mentioned \$200 as an average price for a V. C. won in the Great War. A V. C. must not be sold during the lifetime of a recipient. Other prices are: British Allied Victory medal with oak branch for a mention in despatches, 50 cents. British silver war medal \$1.00. Russian medals and decorations are cheap. A Russian Order of the White Eagle costs \$100 and a Russian Order of St. George \$10.00

\$5,000 Medal.

A representative of the firm of Messrs. Spink & Son, Ltd., Piccadilly, W., told a Mail reporter yesterday that even Waterloo medals today are worth only \$6.00 unless there are special reasons for a higher value. But some medals have today a high price put upon them, as for instance:

\$5,000 for the general officers' gold medal of Vimiera 1808 (2 bars) and the Maida gold medal.

\$1,700 for Army of India silver medal (5 bars).

\$1,000 for the Captain Blake gold medal awarded by Oliver Cromwell.

A valuable collection of great interest to Wales that is almost certain to leave the country shortly unless it is bought for the nation consists of the medals and sword of General Picton, whose monument is in St. Paul's Cathedral. Picton was a Pembrokeshire man. The sword, which has a gold-mounted scabbard, bears the inscription: "The inhabitants of Trinidad to Governor Picton for a colony preserved." Trinidad is anxious to secure the sword.

DUPED BY FAKERS—HOW ART COLLECTORS ARE TRICKED

Many art collectors who have been indulging their hobby while on their annual holiday are returning to town only to discover that their supposed "finds" are clever fakes, for never have the activities of the faker been more rampant than at present.

Amulets or horse brasses, which became the vogue a few years back, are now made by the gross. Spurious brasses have a burr or edge on the back. Many, too, are merely white metal dipped in brass, and a file will soon reveal their falsity.

Samplers are growing in popularity every year. Dated 19th century examples are altered by picking a few stitches out of the figure 8 and thus turning it into a 6. A sure test is that while 19th century samplers are always square, 17th century examples are long and narrow.

Fake glass pictures can be found everywhere. Generally the glass in the fakes is flawless, unlike that in the genuine early pictures, while the paint at the back, being new, can as a rule be scratched with a pin.

As a rule the ivory at the back of a doubtful miniature will show no sign of age, while frequently copper foil is used as a backing to improve the flesh tone. Moreover, ivory did not come into use until early in the 18th century.

Mr. Quownin secured a fine slate tube pipe and last week he secured a catch of 23 hoes. He has about 400 pieces besides 3,500 arrows and spears. He is a photographer and takes pictures of some of his relics and of friends so he can remember what they have.

GREEK COINS.

"Select Greek Coins." A series of Enlargements Illustrated and Described by George F. Hill. (Paris and Brussels: G. Vanoest. £4 4s.)

Dr. Hill's experiment in publishing a series of photographs of Greek coins enlarged to three times their original size will certainly commend itself to archaeologists, who are thus enabled, without encumbering themselves with magnifying glasses, to study admirable specimens under favorable conditions in all the detail they require; with the result that many points of style, problems of interpretation, and analogies of subject which have never before been noticed will now receive the attention they deserve. Whether the lover of coins as objects of beauty will be equally enthusiastic is another question. There are instances where enlargement has spoiled the delicate adaptation of the scale of the handling to the size of the coin, but as often it has revealed for the first time unsuspected subtleties. The coins which gain most are probably the Hellenistic royal portraits, whose great merit can at last be properly appreciated.

It is unnecessary to say anything of Dr. Hill's descriptive text; his international reputation as a numismatist is a sufficient guarantee of its quality. The collotype plates printed by Marotte are on the whole quite satisfactory, but the binding is hardly worthy of them.

ANTIQUE HUNTING ON HOLIDAY—By Richard Fletcher.

American resource knows no bounds, and now our imaginative cousins have hit on a way of traveling in foreign lands and incidentally "making their expenses."

In Italy, France and England these voyagers, always well dressed and cultivated are really seeking bargains in antiques, which they in turn sell to dealers in the various American centers, and often these pleasant tours through historic towns and ancient villages yield a handsome profit after a few months of zealous investigation.

It is all very simple, provided this itinerant collector has good judgment and a rudimentary knowledge of business. He must also have the knack of making friends, among all classes. Often, the porter of a tiny inn or an assistant in a dingy chemist shop may point the way to a treasure trove, as well as an impoverished comtesse.

It is this element of speculation which adds to the pleasure of traveling, since there is always the chance that the prize of a forgotten Canaletto or a Regence armchair may be discovered unexpectedly.

The Spread of Knowledge.

These artistic adventures require the detective's instinct, as well as a knowledge of human nature. Even the most isolated of peasants realize the value of old furniture, and often set a high price on a worthless bit or an amateur's daub. And another ogre which pursues the treasure hunter is the customs office, which is perched ominously on all frontiers.

But, usually, after purchasing, he sends his goods directly to the west-bound ship. These spoils then find their way into the American shops, where uncounted customers await their display.

In the United States the rage for this European art is frenzied, and whereas the American millionaires buy masterpieces of painting and historic tapestries, their humbler compatriots are content with an eighteenth century Venetian mirror or a Sheraton serving table.

One hears of many dramatic discoveries. One of these traveling purchasers is Irving Beebe, who is a leading man in musical comedy in America. He played opposite Mme. Delysia in "Afgar" there, and is now on the continent prospecting for hidden antiques.

In Paris he told me of his "red letter" day. A year ago in Genoa, he was looking through an old palace, which generations of extravagant owners had stripped. But in a dusty attic, under modern trunks, two marriage coffers of the fifteenth century were uncovered.

Buy Warily.

The panels had been painted by none less than Alessandro Botticelli. Mr. Beebe offered a good price. The Italian owner, with his natural flair, knew he possessed two gems. But in the discovery there was glory enough for all, and now the chests gleam in a park avenue apartment in New York. Both owner and traveler had gained immensely.

Of course these unofficial merchants do not reveal that they are selling "to the trade." They bargain as if for their own uses, and when their consignments arrive in New York they exhibit their wares in an unfurnished house and sell them to the retail dealers.

These treasure-seeking holidays are feasible in the British Isles, as the great American market is excellent for antique British domestic art, but certain risks may well be emphasized. It is unwise to purchase anything unless a future sale is assured. Know what you want and look for it, rather than buy haphazard because things are cheap and easy to find. Also beware of "fakes."

FIND ANCIENT INDIAN MIRROR MADE OF STONE

An Indian mirror, made of a thin slab of highly polished black stone, with one end narrowed to form a convenient handle, has just been discovered near Hazelton, British Columbia, by an archaeological expedition of the Canadian government. The mirror was found in the prehistoric part of an ancient Gitsan Indian village site. Dr. Harlan I. Smith, Canadian archaeologist, states in a communication to Science Service.

"These extremely rare specimens are known to have been used in prehistoric times by the totem pole Indians of Skeena Valley," Dr. Smith writes. "One of the Hazelton Indians has demonstrated that these mirrors were used by wetting the stone and has shown that the wet polished surface actually reflects the human face so clearly that every individual hair and the color of the eyes may be seen. This Indian states that the mirror was used by the Indians when they were painting their faces for dances and ceremonials in the days before they could buy looking glasses from white men."

The specimen will be sent to the National Museum of Canada, at Ottawa, Dr. Smith states.—K. C. Star.

INDIAN COLLECTION.

Mr. Wm. Wetzel has made an interesting display of Indian relics in a Superior, Neb., store window. This collection includes a gun that is 152 years old, and another gun made in 1827, and hand sickle made by Mr. Wetzel's father the same year.

Mr. Charles Clingman added a buffalo robe, two buckskin dolls and a pipe, which was brought from the Pipestone country, to the collection. There are also arrows and arrowheads, moccasins, skulls and many other interesting things in the collection. Relics of Kansas and Nebraska.

FIND BRONZE RELIC OF CORONADO VISIT—FIGURE OF KNIGHT IN ARMOR, IDENTIFIED AS SWORD HANGER, DUG UP NEAR FAIRBURY

Fairbury, Neb., June 20.—The little bronze figure of a knight in armor found lying in a hollow on the banks of Rose creek, five miles south of Fairbury, this spring, is a relic of the fifteenth century without a doubt, according to the report from the Smithsonian institute, Washington, D. C.

Word to that effect has been received from Frank Leger, Fairbury manual training instructor, who interested himself in tracing the origin of the little figure. Mr. Leger sent it to A. E. Sheldon, secretary of the Nebraska State Historical society, Mr. Sheldon had it photographed and sent to the Smithsonian institute, which is considered an eminent authority in such matters.

The figure which represents a knight in armor is attached to a chain with a snap and is classified as a sword hanger. It is believed probable that it belonged to a member of the Coronado expedition. Coronado and his soldiers were the first white men to visit the Nebraska-Kansas plains, coming in 1541.

E. E. Blackman, curator of the Nebraska State Historical museum, intends to devote some research work to the period to which the sword hanger belongs, in the effort to establish its historical significance definitely.

FIND ANCIENT BONE TOOLS.

Omaha.—More than 300 fossil bone instruments, said to be unmistakably of human origin and believed the handiwork of a race that lived in western Nebraska at least four million years ago, have been unearthed on the Harold Cook ranch, near Agate, Neb., about fifteen miles east of the Wyoming line, and are in possession of Dr. Henry Fairfield Osborn, president of the American Museum of Natural History, New York.

All instruments included in the exhibit are said to have been made of the bones of extinct animals—extinct horses, camels, deer, elephants and mastodons of the pliocene age that have turned into stone and that are believed to be the first completely fossilized bones ever to be discovered.

They are described by Dr. Osborn as symmetrical shape, and are said to have been identified as skin dressers for cleaning animal hides, pointed awl-like instruments, evidently used in sewing, neck ornaments made of strung bones and a kind of comb that seems to be a tattooing implement.



**BUY BARBER SHOP MUSEUM—MILWAUKEE GETS MINERALS
ACQUIRED BY OLD-TIME BARBER.**

The contents of a dusty, crowded little barber shop in Mineral Point, Wis., were purchased recently by the Milwaukee public museum. In the days when Wisconsin did surface mining, Otto Appel, the shop's owner, who died a few months ago, used to offer a free shave to miners in exchange for mineral specimens.

In the course of time, his shop, said to be the oldest barber shop in the state, became a center, and his specimens, many of them highly valuable, increased greatly. More than 1,000 of these are in the museum's collection, purchased from Otto Schicker, a friend of Mr. Appel's since 1885.

The barber was a collector all his life, and his shop was filled with stuffed birds, muzzle-loading muskets, minerals and all manner of things acquired or presented to him. Minerals, however, were a particular hobby and in 1893 the display was awarded first prize at the world's fair in Chicago.

BIBLIOGRAPHY



Edited by Roy Adair, 1715 Champa, Denver, Colo. Under this heading we will answer all inquiries pertaining to books. Questions and answers of interest to subscribers will be published here each issue. Parties having interesting notes kindly send to the above.

Here you may range the world with the magic of a Book; plunge into scenes of remote ages and countries, and cheat expectation and solitude of their weary moments.

A copy of the first folio edition of Shakespeare has just been sold in London to an American collector for \$62,000.00.

Similar to all genuinely rare items, this copy has steadily increased in value. In 1882 it was sold for \$2,100.00. About 1900 for \$4,400.00 and in 1923 for \$30,500.00.

The auction season in New York begun officially with a sale in the Anderson Galleries on October 4. This season will witness higher prices than ever for the really scarce items, which will probably appear only at rare intervals.

Items listed of exceptional interest.

America A Prophesy, by William Blake. London 1793. \$1,000.00.

The Tragedies of Boccaccio, London 1555. An early translation of the famous work, \$150.00.

The Rape of the Lock, by Alexander Pope, London 1714, \$175.00.

The Second Folia, Shakespeare, London 1632, \$1,750.00.

Dictionary of the English Language, Dr. Samuel Johnson, 2 volumes, London 1755, \$80.00.

Raxana by Daniel Defoe, London 1724, \$200.00.

Plutarch's Lives, London 1579, \$500.00. One of the first translations into English of this famous book.

MOUND YIELDS SKELETONS.

Worthington, Ind.—Workmen digging under the direction of Dr. W. N. Logan, state geologist and head of the department of geology at Indiana university, have unearthed several skeletons in the Hamlin mound on the Baker Lowe farm a quarter of a mile west of Worthington. Flints, hammer stones and beads also were dug up in the exploration of the mound. Earthenware also was found. The excavations will be continued in the hope of finding other data of an earlier race which inhabited this part of Indiana. Whether the bones are those of mound builders or of early tribes of Indians is to be determined.

AN AIR "SEASON" FOR LONDON.

What is claimed to be the first aerial season ticket has been issued at Amsterdam by the Royal Dutch air mail. The ticket has been taken, states a British United Press message, by a Dutch stamp dealer who makes many visits to London. It is for twenty-five journeys.

**FOSSILS FINANCE A STUDENT—NEBRASKA YOUTH AND COMPANION
DEVELOP BED FOR MUSEUMS**

A herd of cattle, thousands of years old, is sending Morris Skinner of Ainsworth, Neb., through the Nebraska university. Skinner found the bones of the prehistoric monsters on Plum Creek, north of Ainsworth, in the summer of 1926, when employed at the electric power house near by.

Skinner and James Quinn, a companion, obtained permission to excavate and found several fossils. The huge bones crumbled as soon as the air touched them. Their first find was the bone of a monster prehistoric rhinoceros. These were sold to college museums. Because they had not been properly prepared for shipment, they brought a price that was poor pay for the work they had done.

Early last spring Skinner came to Lincoln and visited the museum of the state university. He told the curator of his work with fossils and the custodian instructed the young man in the preparation of fossils for shipment and told him that if he entered the university, he might have part time work in the museum to help pay his way.

The finds of the two youths now include a dozen skeletons of rhinoceros, some almost complete; one or two of the mighty four-tusked elephant; several fine specimens of the three-toed horse, and some huge bones as yet unidentified.

Skinner is studying geology and kindred subjects having a bearing on prehistoric animal life—K. C. Star.

QUEEN'S DOLL HOUSE DISPLAYS PAINTING 138 FEET IN LENGTH

One of the most remarkable painting in the world, 138 feet long, has been placed on exhibition in the queen's dolls' house room at Windsor castle, one of the English royal residences.

It is an eye-level running picture of the coronation procession of 1911, painted by Kennedy North, and has taken him more than three years to complete.

Over 300 horses and 3,000 men are depicted. Beginning at the door of the room, the painting shows the fine white horse which headed the procession, followed by detachments of troops, the royal coach drawn by eight cream horses, the distinguished guests and the remainder of the escort.

This has also a stamp album on display.

The greatest of book collectors was Richard Heber, an Englishman who died almost a hundred years ago. He is said to have owned 150,000 books, many of them of great variety. His library in London filled eight houses; when it was sold at auction the sale lasted more than six months and brought over \$250,000. Heber is the man who said that every gentleman ought to own three copies of any good book, one for show, one for use and one to lend.—Youth's Companion.

VOCATION AND AVOCATION.

Websters dictionary gives a man's vocation as his business, profession, etc., and his avocation as his hobby or the things he takes pleasure in doing. Many people have started coin, stamp or relic collecting as an avocation or hobby and have turned it into their vocation or business. It is a very simple thing to start this most interesting of hobbies. Write most any advertiser.

NEW "TAILS" FOR BRITISH SILVER COINS.

Coins of new design are shortly to be issued for the third time during the present century. The six silver coins, including (for the sake of collectors) the rarely seen five-shilling piece, are to have new "tails" sides.

The new coins will be in circulation within the next few months. It is understood that the King has approved the designs submitted to him by a committee headed by the deputy master of the mint. The new coins will not differ greatly from the old, but it is understood that they will be more artistic.

NUMISMATIC NOTES.—By M. Sorensen.

Our currency is to be reduced in size. Our present bills are 7 7-16 by 3 1-8 inches while the new bills will be 6 1/2 by 2 5/8 inches. Through this reduction, public convenience will be served, while the cost of paper production and other factors will be decreased \$2,000,000 annually.

The new one dollar bills will carry a portrait of George Washington and the \$2.00 bills one of Thomas Jefferson. The new money will be about the size of the present Phillippine currency, and one third smaller than the present currency. It will fit better in the pocketbook, but its spending qualities will not be altered.

Now is the time to pick up and save some nice specimens of the old kind.

The Sesqui-Centennial commemorative coins were not a success, though there is every reason why the coinage should have proved popular. In the first place they marked an important event in our national history; they were attractive in designs, and the minting of the half dollar created a precedent, marking the first time that the likeness of a living president appeared on a national coin.

One million of the half dollars were minted, and 200,000 of the \$2 1/2 gold pieces. Of the former about 150,000 pieces were sold, and of the latter about 50,000. Unsold pieces were remelted at the mint.

Money speaks its own language; money writes its own history, and in many instances is money—or that which once passed as money—the only evidence of events, otherwise forgotten. In this country we have had almost countless issues of private currency, used by railroad and transportation companies, banks, manufacturers, etc. Lack of current money prompted many of these issues. If a complete history of all our private currency and coins could be prepared, it would prove immensely interesting because it at the same time would reveal the many troubles and great difficulties the pioneers had to endure while they were blazing trails in this new country. Attempts have been made at describing our private issues of money, and of the Confederate money, issued during the Civil war, and of the so-called Pioneer or Territorial gold coinages, we have fairly correct descriptions, and an—also fairly correct—description of bank issues is now being printed in a numismatic magazine, but it is pardonable if such descriptions are incomplete in certain details. The field is too large and the material too great for any one man to handle. He must have many helpers, who are locally acquainted. History of hitherto unknown issues of currency is continually brought to light, and it is just such local history, which some of these issues reveal, that is so very interesting.

Wars have been the cause for many issues of emergency currency and script. One such issue was the so-called Price Raid Script in Kansas. This was issued during the Civil war when General Price and his southern army

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came charging into Kansas. This script was a forced issue. Some people in Kansas still hold some of the script; one family in Boicourt is said to have over \$1,700 of it. Fifty years ago the government authorized a commission to study the claims to damages by the holders of this script, and on this report the government paid the state many hundreds of thousands of dollars to pay these old Price Raid claims. But some people neglected to send in their claims; others did not turn over the script for redemption at the time, and it is believed that there is around \$100,000 of the Price Raid script still outstanding. In recent years has the legislature refused to appropriate money to pay claim as it would open up the old controversy.

COLLECTOR OF RINGS.

Mr. McBey is a collector of many curious things, including blank sheets of paper and rings.

His proudest possession is a marvelous emerald ring, which is said to have belonged to Alexander the Great. It is set like a scarab, was dug up about fifty years ago outside Jerusalem, and is the only survivor of four rings carved by Pyrgoteles, the Egyptian sculptor, after the Oracle had announced that Alexander was the reincarnation of Hercules.

I doubt whether any other privately owned ring, not excepting the much discussed "Essex," can beat that record for history and romance.

HAS INDIAN COLLECTION

Leigh, Neb., World: Alfred Lueschen is the owner of an interesting collection of Indian relics consisting of several arrow heads, a spear head and a skinning stone. The relics have been picked up at different times on the Lueschen farm. The skinning stone is rather a powerful weapon and Mr. Lueschen states that he has used the stone when butchering for a good many years. The arrow heads, Mr. Lueschen explained, are made from stones. The stones were heated and the Indians used blades of grass with which they dropped cold water onto the hot stones to chip and shape and sharpen them. Mr. Lueschen recalls that one of the trails of the Omahas led past the place where the Boheet school house now stands. Twice a year the Indians went to the western part of the state on hunting trips.

A \$51,000 FIND.

One day he was a Post reader—next day, the proud possessor of a young fortune—that's the dramatic tale which reaches us from John Cecil Clay of New York. Turning to that week's issue, he read an article by Dr. A. S. W. Rosenbach on the high prices paid for signatures of Button Gwinnett, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence.

Ransacking his memory, Mr. Clay bethought himself of a letter from Button Gwinnett somewhere in his possessions. After much searching he located it in an old trunk stored in his barn. At auction, the letter brought \$51,000. And two days later the barn burned.

STORE PAPERED WITH MONEY

New York.—Walls of the Hans Sergle stamp store are papered with money. However, the proprietor has little fear that enterprising burglars will attempt to remove the paper because the money happens to be from German provinces, which was issued after the war, and now is practically worthless.

"TWO BITS."

Americans, we know, have a genius for coining words and phrases, but I think we must concede a Canadian origin to the expression "two bits," used by Congressman Sol Bloom in his talk the other day. Old settlers in Vancouver told me that the Hudson's Bay Company used to cut bits of hardened sheepskin and stamp them with the company's official mark. Each bit represented 12½ cents, making eight "bits" to the dollar. "Two bits," therefore, represented 25 cents. We also used the expressions, "four bits" (half a dollar) and "six bits" (75 cents). I found these "bits" expressions used over British Columbia and back as far as the foothills of the Rockies, but farther east the expressions seemed to be dropped.

MOUND SECRETS ARE REVEALED

Chillicothe, O., June 24.—The Great Seip mound near Bainbridge, west of here, once more is yielding the secrets of the lives, customs and habits of the ancient mound builders who are believed to have lived in this section 2,000 or more years ago.

Today three burials were discovered and removed by Prof. H. C. Shetrone, curator of the Ohio museum, Columbus, who has just started his third season on this mound.

Two of the burials were partly cremated but yielded artifacts of fresh water pearls, shell beads, imitation alligator teeth made of copper and fragments of woven fabrics.—Sent by Tucker.

GOLD HALF-DOLLAR.

After the discovery of gold in California, coins of various denominations were issued either by the state or by private individuals. Among the coins were gold half-dollars and gold quarter-dollars. At first the coins were round, but later many were made octagonal. The 1855 gold half-dollar has an Indian head with 13 stars and was eight-sided. As it was not an official coinage no record was kept of how many were issued. Many sold by jewelry shops.

The bushman, lowest in the order of human intelligence, unlike any other race on earth, owns the secret of the boomerang. Who can explain the scientific principle behind that weapon. Why are there no example of Australian animal life on other continents? Their birds, plants, trees—all are different. A continent drying out—what mysteries does its interior hold? They haven't touched the edge of what lies back of the turtle infested shores of the Bay of Carpentaria, the bush of Queensland.—Adventure Magazine.

INDIAN POTTERY MINE ON KANSAS AND NEBRASKA LINE FARM.

One hundred or more fragments of delicate pottery, strewn over the work table of E. E. Blackman, curator of the Nebraska historical society, were being pieced together by the archaeologist in something of the manner in which a child endeavors to fit pieces of a puzzle picture, when he was seen in his room in the basement of the university.

Mr. Blackman said the cache of pottery was found May 28 of this year when he was visiting the "Leary site" from which most of the Zimmerman-Remsburg collection, now the property of the state historical society, was obtained. Mr. Blackman was endeavoring, with evidently a considerable degree of success, to piece the fragments into one or two large vessels. The

pottery is of extraordinary thinness and delicacy and had seemingly been tempered with shell. When completed the bowls will form a valuable addition to the collections.

The knowledge of the archaeological richness of the Leary site, covering a section of northeast Kansas and southeast Nebraska, came to the knowledge of the historical society in the fall of 1925, when Mr. Blackman, accompanied by Ivan E. Jones of the society staff, visited Mark E. Zimmerman at his home near White Cloud, Kas., to look over the collections of Indian relics made by Mr. Zimmerman, and also those of Mr. Remsburg, which had passed into the possession of Mr. Zimmerman when the owner removed to California.

Mr. Blackman became convinced that the ruins in Richardson county, about six miles southeast of Rulo, and extending across the Nebraska-Kansas state line, had once been the home of the lost tribe of Cherokees, said in legends to have crossed the Mississippi river before the days of written history. It was in a fruitless search for this branch of the tribe that the Cherokee half-breed, Sequoia, who invented the only Indian alphabet, lost his life.

The village ruin covers approximately 600 acres. The articles unearthed, and now the property of the historical society, bear unmistakable traces of Cherokee origin, Mr. Blackman believes. If this surmise is correct the village may have been located a thousand years ago.

Besides the general characteristics of the chipped tools, arrows, spears and pottery, four round concave disks of stone, known as "discoidals" and used by the Cherokees playing a game, were discovered. The discoidal seems distinctly a Cherokee implement, Mr. Blackman says. In playing the game the stone was rolled on edge along a smooth alley and the players stood along the side armed with spears. Each spear staff had seven or eight leather thong rings upon it, large enough to pass through the hole in the discoidal only with difficulty. The spear was thrown through the discoidal as it rolled and the tally was made according to the number of leather rings which were made to pass through the hole before the spear came to rest.

Mr. Blackman recognized the value of the Zimmerman-Remsburg collection at once, but the historical society had no funds for such a purchase and the owners did not feel able to give it without remuneration. An option on the collection was secured by Mr. Blackman, but the time had nearly expired, when the matter was brought before the board of the state historical society by the secretary, A. E. Sheldon, who explained the exceptional value of the collection. A member of the board volunteered to head the subscription list, and through the aid of contributions from other public spirited residents of the state, the purchase was made.

The collection weighed a ton when packed and loaded on a truck. Many of the smaller pieces have been mounted and are on exhibition in the museum, but many other specimens are still stored for lack of space.

CONFEDERATE NOTES, STATE BILLS, FOREIGN PAPER MONEY, BONDS

As you know paper money has been neglected more than coins and medals. The reason for this is the demand for paper money has not been so great. But since we have been asleep there has been thousands lost or destroyed. Paper money is rising in price every month and will continue to do so in the future. Have you a collection started?

THE PHILATELIC WEST

BOOK SELLING HINTS

The Book Scout says: In describing a book or pamphlet always give the following information: (1) Name of author. (2) Title of item as it appears on the title page. (3) Size. (4) Nature of binding. (5) Number of pages. (6) Place of publication. (7) Date of publication. (8) Description of condition. (9) Price and state whether delivered or postage extra.

Example: Hall, Jas. The West, Its Commerce and Navigation. 12 mo. cloth. Pages, 328. Cincinnati, 1848. Nice copy. \$3.75, postage paid.

Do not destroy anything in print entirely by or about Abraham Lincoln, even if only a page or two in length. Many of these little pamphlets are valuable and all will bear investigation.

DENVER MINT TO COIN LARGE NUMBER OF \$20 GOLD PIECES

Coinage of \$100,000,000 in gold will start in the Denver, San Francisco and Philadelphia mints, August 1, Robert J. Grant, director of mints, said here today.

The coinage will be all in \$20 pieces and will form reserve for \$300,000,000 in gold certificates which will be produced by the treasury department Grant said.

Grant stated most of the new gold is coming into the United States in coin from Mexico and Europe.

All foreign gold coins received by American banks eventually reach the mints, are melted, and coined into U. S. gold pieces, he said.—Sent by Beals.

IMPROVED METHOD OF TAKING COIN-RUBBINGS

It is no easy thing to make a decent rubbing, so, I think I have solved the difficulty of holding the coin fast. I fold the coin in a piece of paper, turn the edges over, and the coin is fast; next I take a pencil and rub lightly until all the raised parts become visible, then work again over the raised parts. When the obverse is taken, the edges of the paper may be turned right over it and a rubbing taken of the reverse. You will notice in the examples sent that the edges of papers are not turned over at right-angles with the fold; this is to keep the paper underneath from creasing. I favor the idea of cutting out the rubbings and mounting them.—B. S.

I have been a collector for 40 years and as my collection is getting too large for my room I am selling out some good pieces. It might interest you to know that I have 45 bird stones, 18 bar amulets, 14 butterfly ceremonials, 10 crescents, 3 double crescents, 7 geniculates, 6 boatstones, 16 tubes, 11 copper objects, 9 pick shaped banners, 7 ball banners, 113 gorgets, translucent spears, arrows and drills and hundreds of the more common objects used by a race that is no more. I get most of my specimens of farmers and local collectors.—Albert L. Addis.

A RARE COIN

A reader when counting his loose cash the other day discovered a silver coin which appeared to be a half-crown. On examining it he was surprised to see that it was marked "Carolus II. Dei Gratia Mag. Br. Frt. et Hib. Rex 1679."

Advertise in the West. It pays big returns on investment. Try It Now.

THE PHILATELIC WEST

NUMISMATIC NOTES—By M. Sorensen.

The nation's hero, Col. Chas. Lindbergh, had decorations, medals and honors bestowed upon him in full measure, and no one will say he did not deserve all he got. No American has ever been awarded so many decorations and medals. There is only one thing to say about this. Really, I don't believe the Colonel cares much for all these medals. He is not by nature a collector of such things; his fancy seems to follow other channels. But say, wouldn't it gladden many a collector's heart to gain possession of Lindy's medals.

Among his most coveted decorations are no doubt the French Cross of the Legion of Honor and the Distinguished Flying Cross of the United States. This last one is a new decoration, and Lindbergh was its first recipient. The decoration was designed by Miss Elizabeth Will and A. E. DuBois, War Department employees, and consists of a bronze cross on which is super-imposed a four-bladed airplane propeller with sun rays projecting from the angles of the cross. The ribbon is of blue and white with a narrow red stripe in the center.

Besides these he has received the following decorations and medals:

A medal issued by his St. Louis financial backers. Julio Kilenyi, sculptor, executed by Whitehead & Hoag Co.

A French government medal, designed by Georges Prudhomme.

The Hubbard medal, awarded by the National Geographic Society. This medal has been bestowed only seven times in the history of the society.

The Langley medal, issued by the Smithsonian Institution for "aerodromics." Lindbergh was the fifth recipient of this medal.

The medal and pin of American Lafayette Escadrille.

The Belgian Order of Leopold.

The British Royal Air Force Cross.

The gold medal of the Aero Club of France.

The Swedish Aero Club gold plaque.

The New York State Medal of Valor.

The Medallie Art Company, New York, issued a Lindbergh medal to the public, struck in bronze, 2 inches in diameter. This medal is also very pretty.

Some time before the death of King Ferdinand of Rumania it was stated that the government had ordered struck in London a special issue of 25 and 50 lei gold pieces to commemorate the coronation of King Ferdinand as the first sovereign of Greater Rumania. The portrait of the king was to appear on the obverse of the coins and that of Queen Marie on the reverse. This issue will likely be small, and now that King Ferdinand is dead, and Marie no longer is queen, these coins will be eagerly sought by collectors.

As stated by the official mint report, the following number of pieces of the different denominations were coined at the mints of the United States during the fiscal year ended June 30, 1927:

Double Eagles, 4,142,000. Quarter Eagles, 446,000. Standard Dollars 4,456,900. Half Dollars (Oregon Trail), 148,185; (Bennington-Vermont), 40,034. Quarter Dollars, 18,072,000. Dimes, 49,606,000. Five Cents, 58,202,000. One Cent, 175,847,000.

Coinage other than United States: Guatemala; Gold, 90,000. Venezuela; Silver, 1,545,000; nickel, 2,800,000. Peru; Silver, 620,000; nickel, 1,194,000. Nicaragua; Silver, 500,000; nickel, 100,000; bronze, 250,000.

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COLLECTORS**

Here is a real bargain in nice minerals, sizes about 2x2 or near as possible, all the following minerals for \$1.50 post paid, Hematite xline, Hematite and Jasper banded, Pyrite xled, Quartz xled, Chalcopyrite on Hematite, Pyrite Ball (rare), Red Qtz. Porphyry, Magnetic Iron. All fresh.

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Arkansas

WANTED

All makes of Civil War Revolvers. Am always on the market for Old Arms, especially want small collections. Advise me what you have in first letter, giving price.

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and Double Bitted Stone Axes from southwest Arkansas.

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(Whalebone plates) as it comes from the jaws of the whale to trade for trilobites or spear heads. Write first

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Want Coins, Old Jewelry, Jade, Ivory Carvings, Paisley Shawls, Swords and Armor.

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COLLECTORS

Are you acquainted with gems and gem names?

Do you know what gems are called Drop-of-Water, Irish Diamonds, Peach, Spanish Topaz, Evening Emerald, Ocean Spray, Water Stone, Rain Stone, Ox Eye, World Eye, Rattle Box, Floating Light?

These and hundreds of other names applied to gems will appear in a serial compilation in "Rocks and Minerals," beginning with the September issue, out September 1.—the most complete list of gem names ever published. "Rocks and Minerals" is a quarterly and only \$1 per year (foreign \$1.25.) Send in your subscription NOW and have the next 4 numbers reserved.

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